

# STOURBRIDGE CHRONICLE



Thursday, January 23, 2014

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## Classy glass

Rare pieces go on show to celebrate industry

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## Tough guys

Pair preparing for a gruelling challenge

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## Park life

Outdoor life that is strictly for the birds

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## Project in woodland is a help to wildlife

OVERGROWN woodland in Dudley is being transformed as part of a project to encourage native flowers and wildlife back to the borough. Workers from The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country will be tackling areas of woodland on the Milking Bank Estate.

By thinning dense areas of young planted woodland and introducing new plant and tree species, they hope to create attractive areas for people to enjoy and for wildlife to flourish.

### Grant

A grant of £14,650 has been awarded to the project.

The woodland areas of Milking Bank dating from the 1990s have not been managed since being planted and are quite dense, with lots of bramble and nettles underneath.

Su James, of The Wildlife Trust, said: "We want to engage local schools and community groups in the projects so that volunteers will be trained on how to manage woodlands and will learn about our diverse local wildlife."

The team will encourage native woodland flowers like bluebell, wood anemone and primrose to flourish. They will also use material gathered from thinning trees for the benefit of wildlife.

## Prince's Trust seeks recruits

YOUNG people in Dudley are being urged to join a programme that could change their lives for the better.

The Prince's Trust programme, delivered by City of Wolverhampton College, is on the hunt for new members for their next course, which kicks off next month in Netherton.

The 12-week programme, which helps 16 to 25-year-olds back into work, education or training. For further information visit [www.princes-trust.org.uk](http://www.princes-trust.org.uk) or call 0800 842 842.

# HEALTH CENTRE IS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

**THE results of a consultation on the future of Dudley's walk-in health centre will be revealed at a public forum next month.**

Health bosses are proposing shutting the centre at Holly Hall Clinic in Stourbridge Road. More than 3,000 people responded to a consultation to give their views on the plans.

Hundreds of people have signed a petition calling for the centre to remain open.

Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has a £1.4 million contract with healthcare firm Primecare to run the clinic but bosses say this cash may be better spent allowing people to see their own GPs.

Officers and GPs will be sharing the results of the consultation at the healthcare forum meeting on February 13.

### Proposals

Among proposals being considered is an extension to opening hours of practices where out-of-hours services would be available.

A new urgent care centre, based at Russells Hall Hospital, is also proposed.

Healthwatch Dudley, which represents the views of patient, has been drafted in to carry out an independent patient survey of people attending the accident and emergency department at Russells Hall Hospital and at the walk-in centre.

Dr Steve Mann, from Dudley CCG, said "We know it is really important to feed back to people after any consultation - to close the loop and let people know how we have listened and taken their views and opinions

### Report by Heather Large

into account when making our decisions.

"This event is an opportunity for local people to come and talk to us about this, we will be holding more events across the borough and these will be advertised on our website soon."

Among those who have campaigned for the centre to stay open is Dudley North MP Ian Austin, who said it provided a vital service.

He said the consultation gave no guarantee that out-of-hours services would match the centre's opening times and capacity.

He added that he wanted to know how any new centre could cope with the 50,000 people a year who go to the Holly Hall Clinic - in addition to up to 30,000 non-urgent patients turning up in A&E.

The healthcare forum meeting will run from 5.30pm until 7.30pm at Brierley Hill Civic Hall.

To book a place call Helen Ashford on 01384 321719.

## Celebrate with the lizards of Oz



Carpet pythons Phil and Grant with Sam Grove get ready for a busy weekend marking Australia Day at Dudley Zoo with Antipodean creatures also including lizards, insects, kangaroos, kookaburras and wallabies

VISITORS to Dudley Zoo will be transported Down Under to mark Australia Day this weekend.

Presenters will be giving a series of talks about some of the more unusual creatures from Oz within the attractions' collection.

They include bearded dragons, Macleays spectre stick insects, blue-tongued skink and chestnut teal alongside carpet pythons Phil and Grant, who will be in the recently remodelled reptile enclosure.

The revamp, which was designed by head gardener, Carl Stevens, features a pool, rockery, plants, branches and heat lamp plus a large front-opening double window, which offers visitors a better view.

### Kangaroos

Other Aussie wildlife including kangaroos, wallabies and kookaburras will be helping to mark Australia Day at the 40-acre site on Sunday.

Presenter, Pam Midwood, said: "We have quite a variety of native Aus-

tralian species at Dudley Zoo, including a few surprises that people often don't consider to be from that part of the world.

"Our Oz animals range across the whole site so why not come along this weekend to see if you can spot them all."

Australia Day is celebrated annually on January 26 which marks the anniversary of the 1788 arrival of the First Fleet of British Ships at Sydney Cove, New South Wales.

## Fast food plans for town get a setback

PLANS to build two new fast food restaurants as part of a multi-million pound development in Stourbridge have been withdrawn but bosses say they remain committed to developing the site.

McDonald's and KFC are looking to open drive-thru branches on a site off Mill Race Lane on the outskirts of the town centre.

### Future

A planning application for the scheme, which would create more than 100 jobs, had been lodged with the council.

The scheme would see McDonald's return to the town for the first time since it closed its branch in the High Street in 2008. The nearest one is at Lye while KFC's closest restaurant is at Ambicote.

A spokesman for KFC said: "The application in Stourbridge has been withdrawn whilst we gather additional information for the local planning authority."

"We are still committed to submitting an application for the future development of this site, which has been derelict for many years."

The site was formerly the Hayes factory and buildings were demolished in 2010.

The plans have sparked some opposition from neighbouring businesses.

## More shops at new complex

A COBBLER and key-cutting firm is the latest to open at Stourbridge's new £50million shopping complex with three more stores expected to join it in the coming months.

Family-owned company Timpon opened the doors to its store in the Crown Centre on Saturday, creating two extra jobs in the shopping centre.

Sandwich chain Subway also recently arrived at the centre. The complex opened on October 31 and is anchored by a Tesco Extra store.

website [www.wombourne-windows.co.uk](http://www.wombourne-windows.co.uk)

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## NEWS

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## Family of biker say justice has been done



Motorcyclist Allan Green

THE family of a motorcyclist killed in a crash say they can sleep easier knowing justice has been done after a motorist was found guilty of causing his death.

Richard Edmonds, of Bewdley, was found guilty of causing the crash which led to the death of keen biker Allan Green, of Cradley Heath. He was sentenced to four months, suspended for a year, and banned from the road for three years.

Mr Green's family, who were at

Stafford Crown Court to hear the sentence, said it was a fair ruling. His widow Audrey, aged 66, his son Gavin and daughter Claire Walker, 32, spoke after the verdict.

Son Gavin, 42, said: "We are glad the case has come to the right conclusion."

"It has been 15 months since my dad passed away and it has been a very hard and distressing time for us as a family."

"We thought that the sentence was very fair, although it would have been

good to see him banned from the road for good. We can sleep a bit easier knowing that justice has been done, even though it won't bring dad back."

The family said Mr Green, a motorbike enthusiast, was travelling from his home to meet biking friends at the Pit Stop cafe at Quatford when the crash happened.

Mrs Green added: "He loved life and was the heart and soul of our family and he was very interested in bikes."

## Death crash driver, 82, has walked free

## Bid to trace forgotten heroes



Lis Corfield and Joy Marshall, who are tracing soldiers from names on the war memorial at St Mary's Church, Kingswinford

HE gave his life in service of his country and, nearly 100 years on, a group of volunteers are trying to find the story behind a village's forgotten hero from the First World War.

Members of the Wall Heath and Kingswinford War Memorials' Research Group have traced the details of around 100 servicemen from two world wars who are commemorated on memorials in the villages.

The group was formed in 2012 by Joy Marshall, who as a schoolgirl, would walk past the Wall Heath memorial every day. But despite the best efforts of the volunteers, they have so far failed to find any informa-

tion about a serviceman called F Willetts, who was killed during the First World War and whose name is recorded on the memorial at Kingswinford.

The group, which Joy runs with her friend Lis Corfield and husband Guy Marshall, is also seeking information about a J T Williams, who lost his life in the 1914-18 war, and a W Holden who died in the Second World War. The group is hoping to produce a book of remembrance entitled The Lost Sons of Wall Heath and Kingswinford.

Anybody able to help can contact Mrs Marshall on 07739572121 or Mrs Corfield on 01384 401086.

## AN 82-year-old driver has been found guilty of causing the death of a motorcyclist in a horror crash - and walked free from court.

Rider Allan Green, of Cradley Heath, was flung 130ft from his motorcycle and died in the crash caused by Richard Edmonds when he pulled out of a junction onto the A458 near Bobbington.

Edmonds' Vauxhall Corsa emerged from Six Ashes Road crossroads onto the main road when it collided with Mr Green's BMW R1200 motorbike on October 30, 2012.

Father-of-two Mr Green, 66, a retired fabricator welder, from Gawn Lane, suffered multiple injuries. He died at the scene.

Both vehicles caught fire because of the impact of the crash and Edmonds had to be pulled from the Corsa by bystanders moments before it burst into flames.

## Tears

With tears streaming down his face, Edmonds told Stafford Crown Court the 'horror' of seeing flames engulf his car as his leg was trapped beneath the steering wheel.

"I couldn't get out of the car - my door was being engulfed by flames," said Edmonds, who denied the charge of driving without due care and attention.

"Two people broke open the passenger door and they were shouting 'you've got to get out, it's going to blow'. They said 'we've got to get you, you're going to die'. Once I was out of the car, I was on my hands and knees - my legs were like jelly."

"Some people then gave me a chair and a lady gave me a blanket from her car because I was shaking. The woman said 'put your head on my shoulder'. She asked 'who are you?', but I couldn't remember my name. She then put the blanket over my head and the car exploded."



Guilty - Richard Edmonds

"I've had a lot of counselling to get over this."

Edmonds added that he was completely certain the road was clear when he pulled out to turn right, having checked nothing was coming either way repeatedly. But, when asked by prosecutor Mr Andrew Jackson whether he looked to the left once he was in the carriageway having heard what he described as a 'roaring noise', Edmonds replied 'no'.

"If you'd have looked, there's a chance of you being able to take action to avoid the accident, or brake," said Mr Jackson. "Yes, sir," replied Edmonds.

He was sentenced to four months in jail, suspended for a year, after being found guilty by a jury of driving without due care causing the death of Mr Green.

Edmonds, a freelance journalist of Dowles Road, Bewdley, was banned from the road for three years and told he must take an extended driving test before he can be allowed back behind the wheel.

## Zoo is to have new entrance

FINAL preparations are being made ahead of work getting under way on the next stage of a £10.1million masterplan to link three of the Black Country's biggest tourist attractions - Dudley Zoo, the castle and the Black Country Museum.

A new visitor entrance for the zoo is part of the work aimed at boosting visiting numbers. It will be built at the back of the existing car park behind JB's in Castle Hill.

Revised plans have been lodged with Dudley Council by the zoo.

## Sculptures

Chief executive Peter Suddock said: "We'll be getting started very soon and will have most of it completed by the summer."

An open piazza is planned with animal sculptures and seating. As part of the scheme, a joint 600-space car park at the site is also being built.

A route will also link the three attractions.

A visitor hub will also be created to provide visitors with information about all three sites.

## Prison term appeal fails

A BUSINESSMAN jailed for not clearing a towering rubbish pile has failed to quash his sentence and be freed.

Robert McNaughton was sentenced to six months in prison for contempt of court after failing to meet deadlines to remove waste from Refuse Derived Fuel Ltd in Moor Street, Brierley Hill.

Last week he applied to crush the ruling and be released from prison at a hearing at the High Court in Leicester.

But after hearing evidence from the Environment Agency in court, Mr Justice Haddon-Cave dismissed the application and returned Mr McNaughton to prison.

## Pub will go

A VICTORIAN pub will be demolished and replaced with two large houses, under plans recently approved.

A three-bedroom and a four-bedroom house will be built following the knocking down of the Prince of Wales in Tipton Road in Woodseton.

The pub was built in 1850.

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## Woman is jailed for bike theft

A WOMAN who carried out a £1,600 burglary at the family home of a former boyfriend has been jailed for 15 months.

Joanne Mulholland, 25, broke into the house in Penfields Road, Stourbridge, with 19-year-old Andrew Carr on August 22, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. The couple, who both have previous convictions, were seen by a neighbour putting a mini scrambler bike into a taxi, said prosecutor Mr Kevin Jones.

The owner, who had allowed Mulholland to live at the house while she was going out with his son, returned home to find the Suzuki machine had been stolen along with jewellery, a TV and a laptop. None of the items have been recovered.

Carr was on bail at the time after breaking in to another house and stealing a TV.

Miss Samantha Powis, defending, said Mulholland of William Street, Brierley Hill, wanted money to buy food. She admitted the Penfields Road burglary and was put behind bars for one year, and three months. Carr, who pleaded guilty to both break-ins, was sentenced to 26 months in a Young Offenders Institution.

## Two in court after attack

Two men have appeared in court charged with robbing a man who was allegedly left with a fractured skull.

Ross Biles, 20, and Rikki Walters, 26, both of no fixed address, are accused of robbing Edward Owens and stealing a mobile phone in an alleged incident at Swan Street, Netherton. Biles is also charged with possessing cannabis. Dudley magistrates remanded them to appear at Wolverhampton Crown Court on April 9.

Walters was remanded in custody. Biles was allowed bail on condition he lives in Dibdale Court, Gornal, and abides by a curfew.

## Rotary bonanza

CHARITIES across the Black Country are amongst those set to benefit after Rotary clubs raised more than £175,000 during its annual Christmas fundraising drive. The bumper total was raised by clubs operating in two Rotary districts covering parts of Staffordshire, Shropshire and the West Midlands.

# Mother dies after 'inspirational' cancer battle

HER four-year battle with cancer has been described as 'inspirational'.

Debbie Hickman, who turned her hand to careers as varied as marketing and farming before moving to New York has died at the age of 58.

Born in Kingswinford, her father was property developer Jeffery Hickman, owner of the Hickman-Stammore construction group.

She was married to Martin Dunn, who began his journalistic career on the former Dudley Herald, and went on to become editor-in-chief of the New York Daily News, where he was

once reputed to be the highest-paid newspaper editor in the world.

Following her death earlier this month Mr Dunn said: "For four years, Debbie's struggle against cancer was an inspiration to everyone who knew her."

Ms Hickman leaves children Tomjo and Bertie.

Although she was born in the Black Country her family moved when she was a child to Bridgnorth. After attending Alice Otley School, Worcester, Ms Hickman worked in marketing. During the 1990s she

kept a farm in Crowle, Worcestershire.

Her future husband attended Dudley Grammar School until he was 17, when he joined the Dudley Herald as a £10-a-week trainee. The couple initially met through mutual friends in the 1970s, and rekindled their friendship more than 20 years later. Mr Dunn went to work in Boston, Massachusetts, but remained in touch with Ms Hickman.

In 1993 he became the editor of New York Daily News after signing a

£1 million-plus contract. He returned to Britain in 1996 to work on a cable television project, and became close to Ms Hickman.

The couple then moved to the US where Mr Dunn returned for a second spell in charge of the New York Daily News, and remained at the paper until July 2010 when he announced his wife was ill. Debbie died at her home in Greenwich, Connecticut on January 11 with her family at her side. A memorial service was being held in Chaddesley Corbett yesterday.



Debbie Hickman

# Shoddy work could have poisoned elderly resident

A GAS fitter left an elderly man at risk of exposure to carbon monoxide poisoning after failing to fix a part to a boiler correctly, a court heard.

At another property Paul Cresswell installed dangerous wiring that could have left a live current running through pipework, heard Dudley Magistrates' Court.

Cresswell had been working illegally on gas installations at two homes in Stourbridge without registering with the authorities. An investigation was launched by the Health and Safety Executive into his work after one of the residents complained.

## Lapse

He had displayed Gas Safe signage on his van, falsely indicating he was authorised to work on gas appliances. Mr Cresswell had been registered with Gas Safe between July 7, 2011, and July 6, 2012, but allowed his registration to lapse.

Cresswell, aged 44, of Beccles Drive, Willenhall, pleaded guilty to four charges of contravening health and safety regulations at an earlier hearing.

He received a 12-month community order and was told to complete 180 hours unpaid work in the community. He also has to pay costs of £1,270.14 to the Health and Safety Executive.

A previous hearing was told that work Cresswell

carried out at a flat in Hanbury Court, Stourbridge, was so poor that there was a 'realistic and probable' chance of carbon monoxide entering the property because he had failed to fix a flue correctly.

The court heard previously that he carried out shoddy work at a house in Vale Street, where wiring he installed had the potential for pipes to become live.

Mr Lee Preston, defending, referring to the potential carbon monoxide problem, said: "He did not have his Gas Safe card accreditation at the time so he could not sign off on the installation."

He said Cresswell maintained he had told the customer that it could not be used. However, the court heard that the pensioner had been using the boiler.

District Judge Michael Wheeler said: "I take into account that these are serious allegations."

## Families are evacuated

TWO families, including one with a baby, were evacuated from their flats when cracks opened up in the walls and kitchen surfaces began to move.

Firefighters were called to the three-storey building in High Street, Lye, by a concerned resident living in one of two flats. They discovered the building was unstable due to work being carried out to knock down a wall between two ground floor shops. The decision was made to evacuate the eight residents.



Former Olympic torchbearer Ceri Davies is given a helping hand by Banoffie the Beaver

## Furry friends venture

CERI Davies is on the road with some larger than life characters – and it's all in a good cause.

Wheelchair-user Ceri, aged 24, has been raising money and campaigning for children and young people since the age of 13, despite suffering from cerebral palsy and spina bifida.

Now she has set up a not-for-profit company More Mascots Please CIC to offer character appearances for events in the Black Country and Birmingham.

## Children

The Kingswinford-based company is raising money to help children and young people with disabilities and terminal illness.

The former Olympic torch bearer has a team of six fellow company directors and volunteers for a cast of mascots, including Mintie and Melanie dogs and Banoffie the Beaver, donated by mascot company Costumes with Character. Recent additions include Peppa Pig and a Spiderman.

The entrepreneur, of Vernier Avenue, Kingswinford, has also won an award from Think Big and Unltd to sponsor the business in the coming year. So far, More Mascots Please has raised a total of £650.

## NEWS in brief

### 'Mindless' raid on repair workshop

RAM-RAIDERS drove a car into the doors of a car repair garage but left empty handed.

Police and fire crews were called to the unit on Mill Street in Brierley Hill, close to the junction with the A461 Venture Way, at around 4.30am Sunday.

Shane Gregg, aged 45, who leases the unit with a friend to use as a workshop, said there had been nothing of significant value inside for the raiders to steal.

He said: "It's just totally mindless. I can't understand them."

### Repairs centre staff are praised

A CALL centre dealing with repairs for housing association tenants has received recognition.

Dudley Council's repairs management centre was found to be of a global standard as part of its Call Centre Association centre accreditation, which it has maintained for 12 years. Housing boss Councillor Steve Walther said the achievement is a reflection of the commitment and drive of the staff at the centre.

### MP backs project for musical youth

A MUSIC company has been praised by an MP for its work supporting disadvantaged young people.

Stourbridge MP Margot James was given a tour of Base Studios in the town. She met director Warren Evans and the team to learn about their community work. Base Studios uses money generated from commercial endeavours to help young people with a passion for music.

### Tea room to open at timber firm site

A TEA room will open after plans were approved. Officers gave the proposal for the shop in Hagley Road, Stourbridge, the go-ahead.

It will replace Swinford Timber Supplies, which has been at the site for more than 40 years.

The tea room will have six car parking spaces.

### Make trinket box at leather museum

A WORKSHOP at a museum will give people the chance to make a leather covered trinket box. The session at Walsall Leather Museum on February 1 from 10am to 4pm costs £25. Call 01922 721153 to book a place.

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## NEWS

THE BEST  
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RHODES

A FRIEND dropped in with the January glow that comes of being on the latest diet. This time it's the 4:3 diet which involves eating a lot on four days and a little on the other three. Or maybe it's the other way around. It hardly matters because, by the time this appears in print, there will probably be an even newer, better diet which instantly relegates all previous diets to the dustbin. All science changes its mind from time to time but nothing changes faster than the science of humans trying to lose weight. Apart, of course, from the science of climate change.

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IN A landmark case, an Afghan man has been granted asylum in Britain because he has renounced Islam to become an atheist. He fears he would be killed if he returned to his homeland. After Fusilier Lee Rigby was murdered on the streets of Woolwich, what makes him think he's any safer in England than in Kabul?

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A READER writes: "Yesterday I accidentally drove over Dave while getting into the car." Turns out Dave was the name of the sat-nav which had served him and his wife loyally for 10 years. They miss his voice. He wonders whether other readers give their sat-navs names.

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REMEMBER how superior the French used to be about unfaithful politicians? Oh, you English, they would snigger. You take ze adultery so seriously. We're in France are so romantic, so sophisticated and so laid-back zat we 'ardly even take notice of such amours. And then their President Hollande has a liaison with an actress and all hell breaks loose. He starts whining about privacy and threatens to sue the magazine which broke the story (scratch a liberal, find a fascist). His previous mistress, the First Lady of France, is admitted to hospital with a Gallic condition described as "un petit coup de blues." Not so laid-back after all, are they? Adultery hurts the sophisticated French just as much as it hurts Brits. The difference is that when British politicians are caught in the wrong bed, they don't shoot the messenger. They accept public ridicule as part of the price they pay for living in a democracy. And their spouses, gawd bless 'em, adopt a Churchillian stoicism for the cameras, maintain their dignity and would never dream of rushing off to hospital. The Bulldog Breed doesn't do privacy. And it certainly doesn't do the blues.

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AND to those clots who say a politician's sex life is a private matter, do explain how a president scuttling around Paris on a scooter like a lovesick 20-year-old can be fully focused on serving his country.

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HERE'S something that could never possibly happen in a democracy. You get a demand to pay £145.50 towards somebody else's pension. If you don't pay you will get a criminal record and could end up in prison. It is happening. The BBC is taking £740 million of TV licence payers' money to help plug a £2 billion hole in its pension fund. The equivalent of five million viewers' fees will be spent not on making programmes but to ensure BBC employees spend their retirement in rather more comfort than most of us can expect.

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SO what do the following countries have in common: Australia, New Zealand, Finland, Hungary, Iceland and Holland? They're among the 14 countries in the world which once had TV licences but had the good sense to scrap them. The sooner we do the same, the better.

□□□□□□

ED MILIBAND, writing in that Tory bible the Daily Telegraph, says he will "rebuild our middle class." So who's looking after the proletariat these days? How does that old song go: "The working class can kiss..."

□□□□□□

AND if Miliband can build new homes, cut the gas bill, create real graduate jobs and make us all more prosperous now, why didn't he do it when he was in power?

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

## Burglar traced by blood stain at scene

A BUNGLING burglar has been jailed after being traced to a home he broke into – by blood he left on a freezer.

Peter Hodgetts made off with an iPod, iPad, jewellery and £150 in cash after breaking into the home in Highfields Road in Coleley.

But while smashing a kitchen window with a screw driver to get

inside, Hodgetts cut himself and left blood at the scene. After initially denying the burglary in police interview, the 31-year-old admitted the offence when officers showed forensic evidence.

## Convictions

Hodgetts, of Kent Road, Parkfields, Wolverhampton, was jailed for 20 months after pleading guilty

to burglary at Wolverhampton Crown Court. Hodgetts already has 24 convictions from 51 offences on his criminal record – although this was his first burglary offence.

He was also accused of stealing a Kindle e-book reader and £2,500 in cash from the house but he denied it.

The case proceeded because the additional items did not make a difference to sentencing.

Mr Paul Spratt, prosecuting, said the owner had left the home at 1.40pm on November 28, before returning to find the house burgled at 4.30pm.

Mr Malcolm Fowler, defending, accepted Hodgetts had a long criminal history. He said he had remained out of trouble for two years from 2005, until the death of his father which 'knocked him sideways'.

## Family in tribute to father, 78



Enthusiast – Stafford Screen THE family of a model aeroplane enthusiast have paid a tearful tribute following his inquest, saying: "He was our rock – he has left a huge void in our lives."

Stafford Screen, 78, from Wollescote, a trophy-winning member of Blackheath and Halesowen Model Aircraft Club, died from heart complications following surgery to treat severe back pain at Birmingham's Royal Orthopaedic Hospital.

An inquest at Smethwick Coroners Court this week heard how Mr Screen had faced a tough decision over whether to have the lumbar spine fusion surgery following six months of back ache.

Dr Adrian Gardner, consultant orthopaedic spinal surgeon, said he could have died in three months if he did not have treatment.

## Complications

Following an operation on Christmas Eve 2012, Mr Screen suffered complications and was taken into the high dependency unit. He was then taken to Russell's Hall Hospital's intensive care unit but his condition further deteriorated. Dr David Stanley, unit consultant, said nothing more which could be done to save his life and Mr Screen died from acute pericarditis at Dudley on January 2, 2013.

Giving a narrative verdict, Black Country coroner Robin Balmain said: "Death was due to complications, probably bacterial infection, which followed elective surgery properly indicated and performed."

The family of the retired consultant engineer, of Stevens Road, paid tribute to him.

His daughter Debbie said: "We have lost a wonderful and irreplaceable father. Wife Pamela added: "We miss him terribly."

Mr Screen competed in model plane flying, representing Great Britain on 31 occasions including 23 consecutive World and European Championship teams from 1977 to 1999.

He also leaves another daughter Susanne and four grandchildren.

## Major community role for children's centres

HEALTH workers will be asked to advise more families to use services at children's centres in Dudley in a bid to boost visitor numbers as part of revamp plans.

It is one of the recommendations being considered by councillors following a consultation into their future.

Another proposal is to increase the services that are offered at the centres, which would help reduce costs.

A consultation was launched after council bosses announced seven of the borough's 20 centres would close in a bid to save £2.3m.

## Outrage

But Dudley Council leader Councillor David Sparks was forced to make a U-turn after the plans sparked outrage and campaigners took to the streets.

Now proposals are being considered which would see centres encouraged to work with other services such as credit unions, citizen's advice surgeries and health clinics. They would also be promoted as a meeting place for different community groups.

A report, which will be discussed by the council's overview and scrutiny management board, said: "Committee members recognise that savings need to be made in the current financial climate but also note that

by Heather Large

leading up to 2015 there will be significant opportunities for local partners – the local authority, health, voluntary groups and others – to offer greater integration in the delivery of services, including early intervention.

It adds: "Local partners should explore opportunities for children's centres to become community hubs for health, social care and other services such as credit unions, citizens' advice surgeries and be the meeting place of choice for community groups."

The report also says that is believed there are 'untapped opportunities' to improve the reach of children's centres.

More than 1,000 people have responded to the consultation.

Across the borough, about 15,000 children use the centres. After the proposal to close seven, parents voiced their opposition.

## Man has £320 court bill for smashing windows

A 29-year-old man may have used a hammer to smash a mother and daughter's house windows, a court heard.

Bryn Edwards, of Lunt Road, Bilston, admitted criminal damage in Thornberry Drive, Dudley, at the homes of Deborah and Emma Price. District Judge Michael Wheeler fined him a total of £130 and ordered him to pay £170 compensation – £85 for each window – and £20 victim surcharge at Dudley Magistrates Court.

Mr Mark Cooper, prosecuting, said Edwards knew the two women and they suggested he had used a hammer to cause the damage.

He added that Edwards had been 'angry' and looking for Deborah Price's daughter Emma.

## Signs of success for Chris



Signwriter Chris Cook has set up a new printing business at the Red House Glass Cone

THE writing was on the wall when Chris Cook's business outgrew the garage at his home. Now sign-writer Chris has moved into a new studio at the Red House Glass Cone in Wordsley – along with his loyal companion, Benji the West Highland terrier.

Chris, aged 37, who was brought up in Oldbury, runs AKC – named after his late father, Arthur Kenneth Cook – and counts Estee Lauder among his biggest clients.

He started the business up at his Wordsley home eight years ago but it was getting too big. As a fan of old buildings and industrial architecture, he felt drawn to the 18th century cone – now a museum and crafts centre – for his new base.

He had also designed signs for two of the cone's other businesses, the Red Cone Coffee House and SMD Clocks, Crafts and

Stained Glass. And, when he found there was a vacant studio, complete with exposed brickwork and hefty wooden beams, he knew it was just the place for his expanding business.

## Selfridges

Chris designs, manufactures and installs vinyl signs and he recently turned Manchester's branch of Selfridges pink for breast cancer awareness.

In 2012 he wrapped his van in pink vinyl to raise £4,500 for Cancer Research and MacMillan Cancer Support – another tribute to his father, who died aged in his mid 60s from cancer 16 years ago.

Chris, originally from Lion Farm, said: "I love being based here. It sounds silly but I just felt drawn."



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## Gardener tended a crop of cannabis

A VIETNAMESE man was hired to look after 150 cannabis plants growing in a house after he advertised his services over the internet, a court heard.

Police officers were walking down Charles Road, Stourbridge, when they smelt cannabis.

They identified that it was coming from one of the homes in the road and when they knocked the door Tue Dinh Dau answered. They established the 50-year-old did not speak English but he did show the officers inside the property.

### Taxi

Dinh Dau pleaded guilty to production of a class B drug, cannabis, at Dudley Magistrates Court.

Mr Mark Cooper, prosecuting, said: "It transpires that the majority of the house had been turned over to growing cannabis."

Mr Cooper said that in interview Dinh Dau claimed he did not know they were cannabis plants.

"He got a friend to put an advert on the internet looking for work," said Mr Cooper. "An unknown person hired him to look after the plants."

"He was given a taxi lift from London to Stourbridge. He was handed the keys and told to look after he plants."

The hearing was adjourned and Dinh Dau, of no fixed abode, was remanded in custody to appear at Wolverhampton Crown Court on February 6 for sentence.

West Midlands Police say no charges have been brought against a 31-year-old man arrested on January 6 in connection with the incident. He is now being dealt with by immigration.

## Faster food restaurant

A FAST food giant has submitted plans to overhaul its drive-thru lane and car park. McDonald's has put in proposals for its branch at Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury. The changes would include an extra order point so customers did not have to make an order at one window before collecting food at a different booth.

A decision will be made by planners at a later date.

# Woodwork skills to raise cash and confidence



Director Martin Marsden with a hand crafted wooden motorbike

BOOK shelves, plant holders and a model bike – people dealing with mental illness are putting their woodwork skills to the test as part of a social enterprise.

More than 40 members of Woodside Crafts in Dudley have produced dozens of items to be sold at a newly-opened shop in the town centre.

The social enterprise trains people with mental illnesses in the skill in a bid to help them regain confidence and prepare them for employment. Money raised from the shop in King Street is used to buy

new equipment and space for the work and training.

Martin Marston is one of three directors who set up the enterprise in 2012 and then oversaw the opening of the shop in November.

### Breakdown

Mr Marston, aged 51, thought up the idea after receiving help from Woodside Centre following a mental breakdown in 2010.

After being discharged in 2012, he wanted to help others who had been through the same experience.

He said: "People lose their confidence, their sense of worth following a breakdown, so it's vital they can get all the support possible."

"Training people with a skill such as woodwork is life changing. It brings them together, increasing social skills, and provides them with a purpose and the chance to get experience in retail and business."

The other group directors are Chris George and Paul Morgan. The trio hope to raise £5,000 from the shop for woodwork equipment so they can help more people.

# Call for Centro to cut costs before reducing transport

**RUNNING costs should be cut at a transport authority before free train and tram travel for pensioners 'because they built this country', it has been claimed.**

West Midlands transport authority Centro says it has to slash £14 million from its £146m annual budget because the cash-strapped councils that fund it have been forced to make cuts of their own. It has launched a consultation on the proposals, which also include cutting the budget of the door-to-door Ring and Ride service used by pensioners and disabled people.

However, Sandwell Council leader, Councillor Darren Cooper, highlighted that Centro spends around £19.5m on its operational costs – such as buildings, management and staff.

### Trim

He says Centro must trim that bill before 'attacking' the services it is tasked with providing.

Leaders of the seven West Midlands district councils that fund Centro – Wolverhampton, Sandwell, Dudley, Walsall, Birmingham, Coventry and Solihull – asked Centro to consult on ways to cut 10 per cent from its budget.

Councillor Cooper said: "Why are they even thinking about taking the money out of frontline services rather than looking at reducing operational costs? Once they did that, perhaps they would not be talking about stopping a free rail and tram pass. And Ring and Ride is a vital service to many vulnerable people."

"There are other ways of doing this. I think service users may also pay a bit more to keep these services going."

"I will be driving the message that pensioners should not be the ones that should be getting attacked. They built this country."

"My fellow council leaders

by Alex Homer

need to be just as strong rather than the weak-kneed response they have made to Centro so far."

Under Centro's current consultation, options to save money include: children paying two thirds of the adult fare on buses instead of half; removing free local rail and tram travel for eligible people or introducing an annual charge of around £30; reducing the grant to Ring and Ride; reducing the number of taxpayer-funded bus services.

The move would not affect free bus travel for pensioners and the disabled between 9.30am and 11pm, which Centro is obliged by the government to fund. However, it has previously found the money to extend this service to trains and Midland Metro trams.

It must find £14m savings over the next two years. Centro chairman, Councillor John McNicholas, said it had already cut £3m out of its operational costs in four years and planned to find an extra £3m of the £14m necessary savings by further reductions in operations. He added: "A £14 million reduction in Centro's budget would require some extremely tough choices to be made."

Centro will decide on its budget on February 14.



Celebrating long service are John Edwards, Judith Veness, Pam Dawes and Paula Clark

## Thanks for NHS service

CELEBRATIONS have been held to honour hospital staff who have clocked up centuries of service between them. Almost 50 nurses, doctors, radiographers and administrators were among those at a ceremony at Russells Hall Hospital.

They had all reached between 15 and 45 years' of service in the previous six months. They were presented with a certificate and badge by Chief Executive Paula Clark and Chairman John Edwards at the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust's Long Service awards. Among them was clerical officer Pam Dawes, who said: "It's such an achievement to have spent 40 years with the trust. I've worked at the Guest Hospital, Russells Hall Hospital and Wordsley Hospital in the medical records department, and have seen a lot of changes over the years but it has all been very enjoyable."

Also celebrating 40 years was Judith Veness, senior radiographer and general X-ray manager. She was involved in setting up the A&E X-ray department at Russells Hall.

Paula Clark said: "Our staff are our best and most valuable asset and it is great to be able to thank them, in a small way, for working hard to give our patients the very best care."

## NEWS

### in brief

#### History talks on agenda at library

A LIBRARY is launching a programme of Black Country history talks. Historians will give presentations at Tipton Library on Unity Walk, Owen Street.

Keith Hodgkins will hold a talk entitled 'In search of Horseley bridges' on February 20 at 10.30am. Chris Smith will present 'Letters from the Front', a selection of stories based on letters sent from soldiers in the First World War, on March 20 from 10.30am.

Talks are free admission by advance ticket, call 0121 557 1796.

#### Hidden wildlife is revealed to wives

MEMBERS of a women's group will hear all about the 'hidden wildlife of a city'. Brian Draper will talk about the subject to Hagley Wives and Women's Fellowship at the village's St Saviour's Hall on Tuesday, January 28, at 8pm.

And then, on February 11, Sandy Cate will talk to the fellowship at the same venue and also from 8pm about the 'great escape' of King Charles II after Royalist defeat at the Battle of Worcester.

#### New leaders for male voice choir

COSELEY Male Voice Choir has announced the appointment of a new musical director and accompanist.

Director Ray Curran and Stephen O'Reilly have joined following the retirement of John Fisher and Wyn Jones.

New members are invited to attend the choir's rehearsal night held each Monday at Hurst Hill Methodist Church Hall.

#### Classical singing trio performance

SINGERS The Three Tones will be appearing in Halesowen. Local singer Neil helped establish the group, Teodoro DeCastillo, from Italy, and Anthony Barnett, from Southampton, complete the classical trio. The show is on February 7 at Hasbury Conservative Club, Blackberry Lane, at 8pm. Tickets cost £10, 0121 550 3899.

#### Book for ramble

RAMBLERS are invited on a New Year walk at a beauty spot on January 26. The six-mile ramble around the Clent Hills, starts at 10am from Nimmings Wood car park and is £2. Call 01562 712822.

### ADVERTISEMENT

## Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people

I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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## NEWS FEATURE

## IN MY VIEW

WITH  
MARK  
ANDREWS

THIS time last week, I wonder how many people outside the West Midlands football community would have known that West Bromwich Albion were sponsored by property website Zoopla.

But now the Baggies have been ditched by Zoopla following the row about Anelka's hand gesture, all of Britain knows. And probably half of France for that matter.

It's a strange world, this public relations lark. A company spends £3 million on a sponsorship deal with a Premier League football club, and nobody bats an eyelid. It then says it will no longer be sponsoring the same club, and its name (and thus its website address) is at the front of every news bulletin.

Anelka now has to face an FA disciplinary committee, and I have no idea how it will all pan out.

But I think we all know who the winner is...

□□□□□ A FRIEND observes that the controversial Channel 4 series Benefits Street is a bit like Sesame Street.

"Both programmes have a bloke living out of a bin and people trying to learn the alphabet."

And a big bird, of course.

□□□□□ ANOTHER friend recently renewed her car tax on the official Government website, and once it was all done, they automatically redirected her to the organ donor register.

"Not only have I just given away £175, but all my innards too," she observed.

□□□□□ ED Miliband is calling for the break up of our big banks, saying they have become too powerful and there is a need for more competition.

Too right, it makes you wonder how they ever became so big in the first place.

Some reckon there was this politician chappie, who became concerned when one of the big banks in his own backyard got into trouble, and persuaded another big bank to take it over, creating the biggest bank in the world.

Then when the even bigger bank got into even bigger trouble, he arranged for the taxpayer to step in and nationalise it.

Something about saving the world, he said.

Can't remember his name, but vaguely remember a grumpy Scotsman with a lanky, gawky sidekick.

Wonder what happened to him?



Liam Payne during the X Factor auditions



Liam meets fan Claire Peake in Wolverhampton's Wulfrun Centre



The star shows off some of his tattoos on stage

# Is high-flying Liam feeling the pressure?

As more antics involving one of the Black Country's most famous sons – Liam Payne – hit the headlines,

ELIZABETH JOYCE looks at the costly price of fame

**THE FAME game is a difficult one to play. Certainly those in it may think they have the career that they always dreamed of, millions in the bank and adoring fans – but all of that comes with a price.**

The 24-hour glare of the paparazzi, the inability to pop out for a pint of milk without being mobbed, the pressure of being a role model; all of it can take its toll.

And it seems it's the younger stars who feel its effects the most, who can't help but crack a little under the pressure. Concerns have been raised in recent months about Miley Cyrus, Justin Bieber, Rihanna and now our very own Liam Payne.

Just a few years ago, Liam was a normal Wolverhampton lad. He'd go to the Hawthorns to watch his beloved Baggies, enjoy family meals at The Spread Eagle pub in Gailey and get stuck into his studies at Wolverhampton College.

Now, he's in the biggest boyband on the planet, with millions of people around the world watching his every move.

He's gone from living with his mum, dad and sisters in Bushbury to a swanky London skyscraper, where fans camp out each and every day just to get a glimpse of their idol.

He may be only 20 years old, but Liam's days of anonymity are already well and truly over.

And it's something he's clearly struggling to come to terms with, taking to Twitter in the last 24 hours to ask for a bit of peace. "I know my friends have tweeted a lot of pictures of my house the past few days but can people please stop coming and waiting outside," he posted.

"I'd just like to be able to walk outside as everyone does and enjoy time with my friends, not feel bad for not wanting to take a picture. Sorry if



Liam, centre, with his One Direction bandmates Niall, Louis, Zayn and Harry

I've been rude to anyone but I've come to realise if I take one picture more people keep coming everyday."

But, just a few hours after these messages went up to his 15 million-plus Twitter followers, Liam caused even more concern when a picture emerged of him standing on the edge of the balcony of his 34th-floor apartment. While the adoring army of One Directioners have jumped to his

defence, saying he's just acting like a normal 20-year-old lad messing about with his friends, many others have accused him of being irresponsible and reckless.

It may have only been a second out on that ledge but within seconds of the picture being posted online, fans across the globe were talking about it.

Many berated their hero for giving them a scare.

One wrote: "That photo of @Real\_Liam\_Payne on that balcony really gave me a mini heart attack ... please don't do that again!"

While another tweeted: "@Real\_Liam\_Payne should stop thinking he's Batman, when he's not ... Stop climbing on your balcony!"

The photo was posted by one of his friends but has since been deleted. Should Liam have known better? Should his friends? Is there ever a right answer in the fame game?

It often seems the only way stars learn, is the hard way.

## Dangerous

Whether he likes it or not, Liam's a role model now and, sure enough – more than likely encouraged by management obsessed with preserving the 1D brand – he posted an apology, admitting it was "stupid and extremely dangerous".

That night, he was hosting three of his old friends from Wolverhampton, showing them the sights and sounds of London and clubs such as Funky Buddha – in that respect, he's still very much just a normal lad.

He just wants to hang out with his mates and girlfriend, Sophia Smith, whenever he gets a spare five minutes away from the gruelling schedule of 1D.

But, as he appears to be learning the hard way, life is now completely different for our hometown superstar.

*Our advice? Come back home to Wolverhampton for a while and get your feet well and truly back on the ground – not 360ft high...*

## THROUGH THE YEARS

### 1983...

PAUL McCartney declared he would never touch cannabis again after being fined by a court in Barbados. When he was asked if he truly meant that, he grinned and replied: "Probably not."

LEADERS of the West Midlands police committee were so disgusted that they walked out of a private screening of 'video nasties'. Members of the committee had been shown clips of films at the centre of a case at Dudley Crown Court, which saw a video shop owner convicted of obscenity charges in a legal test case.

A MILKMAN charged with showing an indecent video on a football coach as it travelled along the M6 in Walsall was cleared by the town's magistrates. The man, from Manchester, had been travelling back with colleagues from Express Dairies from the previous year's Milk Cup Final between Liverpool and Manchester United.

### 1993...

SHOWBUSINESS stars Roy Castle, Harry Secombe and Ruth Madoc were left stunned as the curtain fell suddenly on Birmingham's Alexandra Theatre where they were performing. The 93-year-old venue shut after running up massive debts, and it emerged it had even tried to sell its seats, curtains and chandeliers in a last-ditch bid to stay afloat.

NINE hippies refused to budge from two stone cottages on the edge of a 100ft cliff on the Isle of Wight, despite police warnings that they were in severe danger after torrential rain triggered a major landslide.

BRITISH politicians were letting the side down in the style stakes, according to survey by an image consultancy. Chancellor of the Exchequer Ken Clarke was voted the scruffiest, with a suit which looked like it had been slept in was the withering verdict.

### 2003...

PREMIERSHIP strugglers Wolves pulled off a sensational win over champions Manchester United. Kenny Miller scored the only goal of the game at Molineux in the 67th minute, although Wolves remained second-from-bottom of the table.

NINETEEN jobs were lost as struggling record chain Our Price closed three stores in the West Midlands. The company, which had been in administration since November, closed its stores in Dudley, Wolverhampton and Walsall.

HOME Secretary David Blunkett revealed that his initial reaction to the suicide of killer GP Dr Harold Shipman was to open a bottle of bubbly. Shipman had been found hanging in his cell at Wakefield Prison.

There is one small job that you have been meaning to do for years -

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## Put Hagley before Hartlebury

NO doubt the Stourbridge Line User Group is pleased with the improved train service at Hartlebury but SLUG's publicity for the new timetable omits to mention that at the same time the service from my nearest station, Hagley, has also been revised so that there are no longer any direct trains to Worcester for most of the day. A change of trains at Kidderminster is now required, adding 10 minutes or so to the journey time. The former half-hourly service also has a random one hour gap in it at lunchtime.

London Midland tell me that the new Hagley service pattern is connected with other changes which benefit a majority of

rail users. I am sure Hagley is much better used than Hartlebury, which is nowhere near the village it claims to serve. On four train stops there so far I have seen a total of one passenger.

I hope that London Midland will monitor usage at Hartlebury and also rectify the error they have made with the Hagley service.

I also hope that SLUG will add this to their list of objectives for 2014.

MR S PILBOROUGH  
Bell Meadow  
Stourbridge

## Heritage site plan sparking road fear

THE approval by Dudley Council to change the use at the former railway goods shed – a listed heritage asset – at Lye station into a waste processing plant operated by Ecology Waste Solutions Ltd has potential dangers and inconvenience to pedestrians and road users.

Although there were some letters of objection, the application was bound to succeed because I believe it is part of the council's extension of their of the recycling activities, with this site processing plastic, card paper and glass.

I envisage many vehicles coming and going. Access to the site is via the passenger station drive, partly cobble stone from the days of the GWR horse-draw vehicles, and the narrow entrance at the junction with the busy Dudley Road the A4036.

At this point there is a blind spot to two traffic lanes in the Lye Cross direction and a bottle-neck opposite where two lanes merge into one a major route to the Merry Hill Shopping Centre.

No restrictions or monitoring has been imposed, so there might be all day and nightly operations and no limits on size/tonnage of the vehicles transporting the materials.

The passenger station is now unstaffed, so who will be looking after the interests and safety of the rail users and the car parking?

## Any work is better than benefits – even this?

SOME say that any work is better than benefits, but is this actually true?

In medieval time vagabonds and villains where put into stocks as a form of public ridicule and punishment.

The 21st century version of the stocks – for not being able to get a proper form of employment – are the poor souls being forced to walk our streets in all weathers wearing cardboard advertising boards for the large fast food retailers.

It must be mind numbingly boring and soul-destroying to have to walk the streets all day as a form of mobile A-board. What has British society become?

What has happened to the Labour party and the trade unions to allow this humiliation to continue in 21st Century Great Britain?

G E FANTHOM  
Swindon Village

## LETTERS to the Editor

### POST

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle  
Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street,  
Wolverhampton  
WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

### E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@  
expressandstar.co.uk

## Waste collection praise

I TAKE issue with Mark Lewis's comments regarding the collection of waste in the Dudley area. Since taking delivery of my various containers for recycling of plastic, cans, glass, paper and cardboard, I have noticed that the amount of my non-recyclable rubbish has fallen by at least a half. It follows that the cost of landfill tax paid by Dudley council will also fall as a result of less rubbish being diverted to landfill.

The recycled product may also attract an income. The market for recyclable products rises and falls, and it is possible that when the market for waste cardboard, plastic, glass, etc, is high, Dudley will receive some income for these items. I know whereof I speak, having worked in the recycling industry for many years.

Judging by the many containers left out on collection days, I believe I am not alone in my efforts to recycle. I also note that my visits to the local recycling centre to dump my recyclable waste have also diminished. In my opinion the waste collection now in operation is a major improvement.

The next step in the chain would be the burning of the non-recyclable waste in incinerators to produce power, thus further reducing the amount of landfill. However, that proposal is likely to draw major objections from the NIMBYs of this world.

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Norton

N WEAVER  
Brierley Hill

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## NEWS

NEWS  
in brief**Death linked to an industrial disease**

A FORMER boiler fitter died after suffering from a condition linked to exposure to asbestos, an inquest heard.

Edward Darby had worked for British Steel at the Coombs Wood plant, in Halesowen.

Dudley Coroners Court heard Mr Darby had retired in 1993 due to ill health.

The widower died on April 10 last year at his home in Cromwell Close, Rowley Regis, aged 78.

Coroner Robin Balmain concluded death was due to industrial disease.

**Grants of up to £5k are available**

COMMUNITY groups are being urged to apply for up to £5,000 worth of grants.

They are being offered to community forums in Dudley to help fund individual community projects. People can bid for the cash either online or by attending one of the latest round of community forums taking place between January 28 and February 5. For more information visit <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/about/community-council>

**Talented pooch**

BRITAIN'S Got Talent winners Ashleigh and Pudsey will take to the stage at The Caravan and Camping Show at the NEC. The dog trick act that shot to fame on the TV show will perform on February 19 and 20 in the Dog Agility Theatre.

# Rare engraved glass goes on show at valuation day

**ORNATE pieces of glass dating back more than 100 years and telling the story of a glass-maker at the forefront of a world famous industry have been rediscovered**

For decades the collection of more than a dozen items had been in the cupboards of his relatives. But now they have been rediscovered ready to take pride of place at a heritage attraction for a new exhibition and valuation day.

by Alex Ross

The rare collection of engraved glass will go on display on Saturday at the event at Stourbridge's Ruskin Glass Centre in Wollaston Road.

**Bohemian**

Glassware engraver by William Kny created the pieces while working in Stourbridge around 1900. He was the son of Fredrick Ludwig Kny, one of the original Bohemian glass engravers that settled in the town in the 1850s.

He had 11 children and four of his sons became glass engravers setting up their own company at The Platts, in Brettell Lane.

Later the brothers disbanded their company and Ludwig Junior then began working at the well known Stuart Crystal works.

William Kny took up a post at Webb Corbett as an engraver and went on to become a director in the company.

The collection is owned by his granddaughter Margaret Tatler who found them in her home in Norton.

Mrs Tatler, aged 81, lived with her grandfather at his house off Market Street, Kingswinford.

"I just didn't realise how popular he is," said Mrs Tatler who has four children, 12 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

"There were all just in a cupboard really and when we found out the family said they would be happy for them to go on display."

"It is lovely to think that people will get to see them after all these years."

Families are being invited to dig out their heirlooms and take them along to be examined by experts during the valuation event on Saturday hosted by BBC Antiques Roadshow expert Will Farmer from Fieldings Auctioneers in Stourbridge.

Volunteers and members of Amblecote History Society will be on hand to provide an insight into the Stourbridge glass industry. The event will run from 10am until 2pm.

For details call 01384 399419.



Margaret Tatler, from Norton, with some of the glassware engraved by her grandfather William Kny which is going on display at the Ruskin Glass Centre

## Message via text led to car damage

A TEXT message row between a couple over their son wanting to leave home led to a husband attacking his wife's car, a court heard.

Richard Timmins, aged 48, damaged the wing and side mirrors of the vehicle and dented a panel by kicking it, Dudley Magistrates Court was told.

But now his wife of 28 years, Nicola Timmins, of Milking Bank, Dudley, has paid for the repairs to the car, said Mr Dennis Dudley, defending.

Timmins, currently living in Wilmslow, Cheshire, admitted causing £1,000 damage to the vehicle. District Judge Michael Wheeler gave him a 12-month conditional discharge and ordered him to pay £85 costs and £15 victim surcharge.

Mr Dudley said Mrs Timmins now wanted him back. He added: "The irony is that although the vehicle is legally hers, he made all the payments on it."

Mr Dudley said the couple had been arguing by text message because their son was "anxious" to leave home.

The judge told Timmins: "On the face of it there was significant damage. But I have taken into account the circumstances. Your wife expresses a desire to have you back after you were separated over Christmas and the new year."

"Don't take it out on a car next time you have a problem."

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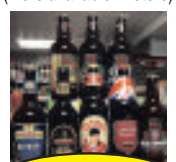
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## NEWS

# Church has found a way to halt decline



Church warden Brian Genner inside Christ Church which has undergone extensive restoration work worth £12,000

**A DWINDLING congregation and crumbling building are common problems for churches across the country working hard to spread their faith.**

But one church in Quarry Bank is managing to keep its Sunday churchgoers happy after spending thousands of pounds on a revamp.

Improvements at Christ Church in High Street include the porch entrance, cleaning stained glass windows, interior walls and even the

altar cross as part of the £12,000 scheme.

"It is all part of our approach at the church to make it more community-friendly and appealing," said joint churchwarden and treasurer Brian Genner.

"We believe it is working and we are seeing our numbers at services stabilise, we now want to welcome more people in."

"Before Christmas we had several services which were absolutely packed - I think that is a sign that it is working."

The first phase of the renovation

work included the main entrance porch to the building and the replastering of an interior wall.

The second stage saw the church's altar cross, two candlesticks and the eagle lectern taken away and cleaned by specialists in Stourport.

New glass doors were then installed and the church's stained glass windows cleaned up.

Mr Genner said: "The church is looking great inside and has proved popular with members."

Mr Genner said the church next had plans to do a complete redecoration of the interior - at a cost of £30,000.

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## NEWS

# Homes to replace office

THE site of an office formerly used by council tenants to pay their rent and bills could be turned into homes.

Outline plans have been submitted by Warwick Homes about access to the former Springfield and Brickhouse neighbourhood office in Rowley Regis. It had previously been used by Sandwell Homes for its tenants to pay bills.

The Dudley Road office would be demolished first to pave the way for new homes, the proposals state.

Developers say a more detailed application will be made later. It comes after the approval of plans for a new garden and play area at another old Sandwell Homes neighbourhood office, which is now used as a community centre.

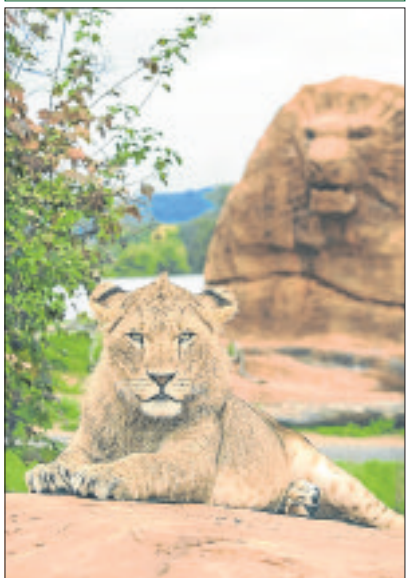
The former neighbourhood office in Greets Green, West Bromwich, is in line for a refit. The Harwood Street building has been taken on by the Confederation of Bangladeshi Organisations since being closed under a £6.6 million savings drive.

# Credit union launches on the internet

A COUNCIL-BACKED credit union serving Dudley borough has launched a new online service.

Castle & Crystal Credit Union is offering people the chance to complete membership and loan applications without having to visit the head office in New Street, Dudley.

## Pride of the safari park



Charlie the lion is short of attention as weekend visitors are few and far between at West Midland Safari Park.

WE'VE all been there – the post Christmas lull and chilly weather means it can be tough to get going in the new year. And now it seems the January blues are kicking in for one of the animals at the West Midland Safari Park.

Charlie, a young male lion at the Bewdley-based attraction has found that after a hectic December with lots of visitors popping in to see Santa Claus, January is providing a decidedly quieter affair.

While dozens of people poured through the doors last month he took pride of place on a sandstone mound where everyone passing could admire him.

And despite the site currently being shut between Mondays and Fridays, Charlie is still heading out to pose but is a disappointed that no-one is there to see him. Bosses say he is in his element again once the weekend arrives.

West Midland Safari Park fully reopens on February 15 when it will celebrate its 40th anniversary.

After registration, members will be able to view online account balances, deposit into savings accounts using their debit cards, and withdraw directly by transferring cash to their bank accounts.

In addition, ethical affordable loans will be accessible to customers, and decisions will be made much more quickly through the new online service.

### Community

Councillor Pete Lowe, Dudley Council's cabinet member for finance, said: "Castle & Crystal is a true community bank offering a fair and friendly service to people in the borough."

"The loans service, which is now available online as well as in the branch, makes sure that members only take on manageable debt – unlike high street payday loan companies who are just out to make a profit."

He added: "Anyone who lives or works in the borough can join knowing full well that the money circulating via Castle & Crystal is staying within the community and helping support local people and businesses."

Established in September 1993, Castle & Crystal Credit Union is a not-for-profit financial co-operative.

For more information about the credit union and its services, call 01384 815771.

### Project award

A PROJECT to bring together people from different communities on of neighbouring estates has won an award.

Dudley Council's participation development team scooped a trophy for its work on the Five Estates Plus Project in Netherton.

# Panel of judges looking for performers with wow factor

PERFORMERS can win cash and the chance to work with a talent agency by competing in a show starting next month.

The Laurels Club, in Colley Gate, Cradley, is hosting the event to find some of the best artists in the region.

The show, which has been named the Wow Factor, is open to any 'up and coming' or established artists in the area.

It will start on Sunday, February 9, running in the afternoons from 3pm to 6pm

for 10 weeks. A panel of judges will be casting their professional eye over the performances to select their champion.

The winner will receive a cash prize, recording studio time and the chance to work for the Waterfords Entertainment Agency.

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## NEWS

# When going gets tough Tom and Matt get going



Tough Guys in training – Tom Davies and Matt Johnson take on the assault course in aid of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust

**FOR some, a 40th birthday could be the trigger to buy a soft-top sports car, start wearing skinny jeans or snap up a ticket for Glastonbury.**

But for father-of-one Matt Johnson, of Churchfield Drive, Rowley Regis, it was the inspiration for running through burning bales of hay, freezing cold water up to his neck and crawling under barbed wire on extreme assault courses.

Mr Johnson, father to nine-year-old Harry, is taking on the Tough Guy challenge with fellow Sandwell Council worker Tom Davies on Sunday.

It is widely seen as the toughest assault course in the world and the 40-year-old is hoping to raise £500 from the event towards the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

Matt's wife Karen died from the disease a month after giving birth to their only son at the age of 32.

Matt said: "It's great when we get

notified of new donations as it means we'll run that little bit faster."

Mr Johnson will take on the challenge with colleague Mr Davies, 41, who lives in Kingswinford with his wife and two children, Jake and Eleanor.

The Tough Guy challenge takes place near Perton on January 26. Anyone who wants to sponsor Mr Johnson should visit <http://www.just-giving.com/maf40> or for more information about the challenge visit <http://www.toughguy.co.uk/>

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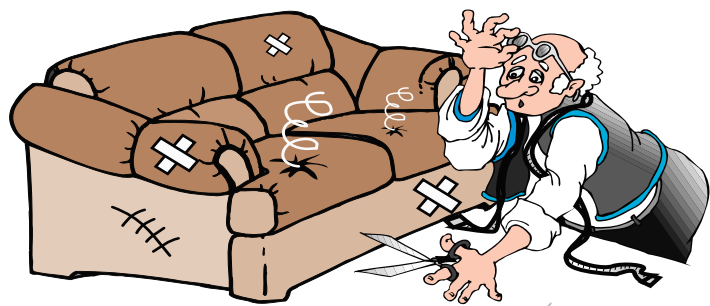
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## NEWS

# Winning team rally so practice runs smoothly



Vet Jo Day, front, with Frances Alink and back, from left, Jo Carrier, Bethany Lomas, Jody Shepherd, Penny Saunders, Kelly Heritage, Lucy Taylor and Vanessa Stokes at Vets4Pets

**AS she battled through gruelling cancer treatment, vet Jo Day could count upon her team to make sure her animal clients were well looked after.**

Now the staff at her Vets4Pets practice on the Dudley border with Tipton have won a national award for pulling together when the chips were down. They were rated top staff out of 230 practices nationwide.

Mrs Day, a 40-year-old mother from Kinver, who lives with her husband, Jon, and seven-year-old daughter Olivia in Edge View Walk, said: "The team has gone above and beyond the call of duty while I have been off fighting lymphoma. "I am truly grateful for all their hard work. It's amazing - they have all taken on an awful lot extra because I can't be there and they really deserve this award."

Mrs Day, a vet since 1996, opened her practice five years ago.

She fell ill in October 2012 and was diagnosed with the aggressive form of non Hodgkin's lymphoma last February. She underwent six months of chemotherapy and is now having radiotherapy. Her staff of two vets, three nurses and two receptionists, were announced as 'Team Player of the Year' at the Vets4Pets annual national congress recently.



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## Trees to be felled at beauty spot

HUNDREDS of trees will be felled as part of a project to restore rare heathland at a National Trust beauty spot.

The work is being carried out at Kinver Edge to restore the area to lowland heath to allow rare species to survive and flourish.

Around 800 trees will be felled as part of the 10-year management plan of the site. Among them are 600 Scots Pines, which are not indigenous to the West Midlands.

Officials say they were planted in the 1960s, by previous owners, as a plantation to be harvested but never were.

The National Trust is under obligation to Natural England to restore the land to its natural habitat, which bosses say will hopefully provide a rich breeding ground for increasingly endangered species.

Alex Morley, countryside manager at Kinver Edge, said: "Many visitors assume that the woodland has been here for hundreds of years but it actually dates back less than a century."

# First steps taken to clear tons of rubbish from eyesore waste site

**TONS of waste have been removed from a recycling site despite its former operator being behind bars for failing to reduce the mountain of rubbish.**

Following months of legal battles between the Environment Agency and Refuse Derived Fuel Ltd, company director Robert McNaughton was sent to jail for six months for not complying with court orders. Despite his absence, work has finally started to clear the construction and mixed waste at Brierley Hill.

The waste removed was stored in bales at the front of the site. It has led to hopes that rubbish from the 19ft high mound of rubbish that has upset residents will be nest. The Environment Agency said the work was being carried out by the landlords of the site in Moor Street.

Catherine Ellis, spokesman for The Environment Agency, said: "The landowners of the RDF Ltd site, Brierley Hill, have informed us that they have removed the waste bales at the front of the site."

### Positive

"We are pleased about this positive development and are currently checking that those bales were properly disposed of."

She added: "The priority has always been to get the site cleared. We are committed to making those responsible pay for their actions and will continue to work to make this happen."

The move comes just a month after Mr McNaughton was imprisoned for contempt of court at Birmingham High Court. He had breached an order to clear the site of rubbish by September

10. He was jailed despite claiming he had tried his 'utmost' to clear the site but was restrained by heavy company debts.

After the hearing, David Hudson, the Environment Agency's environment manager, said he would continue to push for the site to be cleared.

Brierley Hill Councillor 7 Islam said he was surprised by the removal of waste, but hopeful it would lead to the start of clearance for the whole site.

He said: "One hopes this will continue and the unsightly amount of waste comes down to provide relief to everyone who has suffered."

"We have been concerned about the site for many years but thanks to the persistent approach of the Environment Agency, it looks like we might finally be getting results."

## Two accused of pub attack

TWO men have appeared in court accused of attacking a fellow customer in a pub.

Luke Walker, of Gayfield Avenue, and Luke Seeley, of Channon Drive, both in Withymoor Village, Brierley Hill, are accused of the alleged assault in the Tenth Lock pub, Brierley Hill on November 9.

Walker, aged 26, and Seeley, 25, are charged with wounding Liam Marsh. Neither gave an indication of their plea.

District Judge Michael Wheeler, sitting at Dudley Magistrates Court, ordered that the case should be heard at crown court.

Both Walker and Seeley were bailed to appear before Wolverhampton Crown Court on April 9.

Their conditions of bail are that they should not go to the Tenth Lock pub or contact the victim or witnesses.



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## Police back movie



16-year-old film maker Max Tobin from Amblecote is making a film with the help of Stourbridge Police

HE'S been making films since the age of nine and now teenage film maker Max Tobin is starting work on his most ambitious project which will see him work alongside police in Stourbridge.

The 16-year-old described the film, which is called Rubber Duck, as a light comedy and a coming of age drama about vigilantism.

Max, who lives in Amblecote, said: "The film is in partnership with Stourbridge Police, who are being nice enough to rent me costumes and allowing me to film inside the station."

"We are planning on filming in February but will be fundraising via donations on the website 'Kickstarter' throughout January to be able to purchase costumes and props."

"The film will then hopefully be screened at film festivals around the world."

To find out more about Max's movie log on to the [www.tobinfilmmstudio.org](http://www.tobinfilmmstudio.org) website.

## Driver cut free after car crashes into wall

A MOTORIST was cut free from the wreckage of his car after it crashed into another vehicle and demolished a garden wall in Wollaston.

Residents were awoken from their beds after hearing the 'very loud' smash shortly after midnight on Thursday.

Some dashed from their homes to help the dazed driver in Cobden Street.

Fire crews from Stourbridge and Brierley Hill cut the middle-aged driver out of the Peugeot 307.

Paramedics took him to Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital but he was not thought to be seriously hurt.

The vehicle hit a parked car in the one-way street before ploughing into the low wall. The wall belonged to shocked homeowner 87-year-old Estelle Depa.

Next-door neighbour Robert Warner, aged 62, said: "I woke up when the blue flashing lights arrived. The Peugeot was buried in the wall and the emergency services were getting the driver out."

Another neighbour, Kevin Bidmead, aged 53, said: "The car had clipped another car as it came down the road before hitting the wall. The driver seemed dazed and the car was full of gas from the air bags."

The crews were at the scene for more than an hour making sure the car was safe and clearing debris.

West Midlands Police spokesman Lee Page said: "We are investigating the accident."

Anyone who witnessed the crash is urged to call the police on 101.



## NEWS

# Twitchers are helping conservation at park



Getting ready for a bird watching event are, front, senior park ranger Lydia Allt, with, back from left, Mike Hessey, Phil Griffiths, Barbara Thomas, Cynthia Simpson, Thelma Davies and Chris Rich, of the Friends of Priory Park

**TWITCHERS can help a national bird conservation scheme while touring newly-restored parkland this weekend**

People can grab a pair of binoculars to take part while enjoying a stroll around revamped Priory Park in Dudley. Park ranger Mark Tarpey is leading the event on Saturday, which is part of the annual RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

Ornithologists will focus their lens to the skies to note down the many varieties of bird which make the park their home.

Data collected on how many of each variety are spotted is collated in a national record kept by the charity to chart the bird population across the country.

Members of the Friends of Priory Park are taking part and are keen for residents turn up to see the revitalised parkland.

People are asked to meet at the park pavilion for 2pm where they will be given a pair of binoculars to help them observe on the day.

Friends group member Chris Rich added: "It is a great chance to see the park following all the work which has taken place."

Work was completed last year on a

£2.6 million revamp of the historic park which includes the ruins of the 900-year old Dudley Priory. Investment came from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Big Lottery Fund under the Parks for People programme. Dudley Council and other contributors have put £800,000 into the project.

Another event taking place is a charity 'lapwalk' on February 7 in aid of the British Heart Foundation. The event starts at 10am with people completing as many of the one-mile circuits of the park as they can. Refreshments will be served.

To find out more about either event call 01384 812474 or 01384 237959.



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## NEWS

# Reassuringly expensive chairs are success story



Comfortable business – chairs undergoing final assembly at Boss Design Group's factory on the Pensnett Trading Estate. THE last three decades has taken furniture maker Boss Design from a small start-up to a multi-million pound business supplying some of the UK's biggest banks as well as customers around the world.

The company produce around 4,000 items a week, from deep leather upholstered sofas to modern office seating. Production is likely to hit around 200,000 chairs, helping push the company to a record turnover of around £32 million.

Started in 1983 by managing director Brian Murray, the aim was to produce high quality products with cutting-edge design.

As well as chairs, the company makes office tables and has branched out into creating a movable meeting

room called the Vista which is already catching the eye of big name clients.

Commercial director Michael Holmes said: "The order that broke the mould for Boss was for the Exocet chair, designed for Royal Navy warships to withstand the impact of those missiles. Hundreds have been supplied to the navy and it is still being made today, nearly 30 years later."

"Also there was a large order from RBS which helped establish our reputation with the banks. We now supply Lloyd's, Nationwide, Barclays, HSBC and Halifax. Some of those contacts are just for this country but sometimes they want us to supply their offices overseas. It is how we got into the US market which is very big for us now."

"We don't compete on price. We're a

bit like Stella Artois: reassuringly expensive. Ours is a quality product that lasts."

The company is currently investing around £500,000 on a new package of products to be launched in 2015. At the same time, with around 25 per cent of its sales going abroad, Boss has just opened its first showroom in the Middle East, in Dubai, which has become its second biggest overseas market after America.

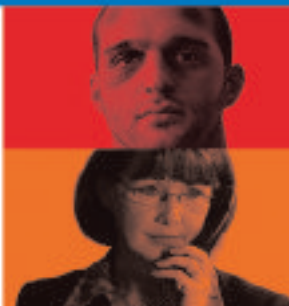
The growth in demand has seen the company running two factories in the Black Country. It's Boss Drive base in Dudley houses the hand-made furniture work while most of the mass-production work is done at a 72,000 sq ft factory on the Pensnett Estate in Kingswinford.

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## NEWS

# TV show hopefuls aimed for a Peaky performance



The long queue for auditions for roles in hit TV drama Peaky Blinders held at the Minerva Works in Birmingham

THE likely lads came in their droves in the hope of winning a part in the next series of Peaky Blinders, the hit TV show about Brummie gangs between the wars.

And it was a blinder of an audition with at least 1,000 young men turning up to audition for a part in the gritty drama, in a queue snaking for up to half a mile, starting at least three hours before the 11am opening.

Vivid Projects, which hosted the auditions for the BBC drama, had appealed for local lads after the first series, although a huge success, received criticism that some of the Brummie accents were a 'bit dodgy'.

And that's exactly what they got - real Brummies, and many young men from the Black Country too. There were so many that they had to hold the auditions in groups of 10.

Those fitting the criteria - white aged between 13 and 19 or mixed-race 15 to 17 - had their photographs taken and were told they would be contacted if they got a part.

First in the line that stretched from the Minerva Works in Fazeley Street, Birmingham, was 17-year-old Nathan Beardsmore, from Glyn Farm Road, Quinton.

Shivering in the morning chill, Nathan, who is studying drama at King Edward VI Sixth Form College, Stourbridge, said: "Peaky Blinders was a local production. It put Birmingham on the map."

Alex Parkinson, 20, of Stamford Road, Amblecote, and Dylan Allison, 17, of Bond Street, Blackheath, warmed themselves up on the pavement by practising dramatic speeches.

Alex, who was 65th in the queue, delivered a Macbeth monologue, while Dylan went for a speech from Oedipus.



In the queue Alex Parkinson, left, and Dylan Allison

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## Vision Express buy more stores

HIGH street opticians Vision Express has bought 65 stores from Rayner Opticians to increase its total number of stores in the UK and Ireland to 367.

It will convert 38 to Vision Express with their current teams and the others will transfer optical services to nearby Vision Express premises.

There are three Rayner branches in Shropshire and Vision Express has existing sites in Kidderminster, Lichfield, Brierley Hill, Stafford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

Last year saw Vision Express buy 12 optical stores from Crown Eyeglass.

Jonathan Lawson, Chief Executive Officer said: "This is a very exciting time. The Vision Express brand and business has been performing strongly for the last three years.

"Therefore, it is timely that we seek opportunities in the right location, to increase our market share."

# Village library under threat

**HAGLEY Library is under threat of closure as county council bosses draw up plans to make £1.9 million of cuts over the next two years.**

Options being discussed include shutting the library and replacing it with a mobile service. Other options being considered are transferring the running costs to Hagley Parish Council with the aim of moving the library to a proposed 'community hub' in the village at a later date, or keeping it as it currently is.

### Savings

Worcestershire County Council's libraries and learning service needs to make the savings by 2015/18.

Hagley Parish Council chairman Steve Colella, who has described the library as 'essential' said he had been informed by the county council that the venue was at risk of closure as part of a review services.

The county's council's strategic libraries and learning manager, Kathy Kirk said it was looking at ways to maintain the library at a reduced cost and discussions had taken place with the parish council.

Mr Colella said: "Hagley Library Service is essential and is of great importance not only to the people of Hagley but also people from the surrounding areas.

"The outcome of a review of library services in Hagley is being prepared by Worcestershire County Council and will spell out the proposed recommendations to their cabinet.

"County overall budgets have to be cut by £30m with library service running costs requiring to be cut by half.

"I have been told that there is a risk that Hagley library will close and be replaced by a mobile library service, unless support can be found to bridge the service budget deficit.

"I do not want this to happen and the parish council will be looking at ways in which it can

step in to support the continuation of the service in the existing building.

"However, any support the parish council gives must not leave it with future insurmountable debts and without problems landing in the lap of the parish council whilst the county council walks away.

### Engage

Mrs Kirk said: "We are working closely with parish and district councils across Worcestershire to try to ensure library services remain at reduced costs.

"With regards to Hagley Library, we are in early discussions with potential interested parties and will engage with the local community as soon as any proposals emerge".

In 2012 the library celebrated its 50th anniversary.

Elsewhere in the region, cutbacks have already been made at Kidderminster Library.

## Expanding firm looks to recruit

AFTER a successful acquisition of Quality Metal Products in July 2012 by the present management team, 2014 has begun with great plans for further expansion.

On December 28 QMP purchased the freehold of its site in Lye, Stourbridge.

The multi-million pound acquisition of the 2.7 hectare site, with over 75,000 sq feet of production space is the foundation stone for further investment.

Managing director Neil Higgitt said: "The purchase of the site will ensure the longevity of the business and allow investment in sophisticated plant and machinery."

Already a new powder coating plant is on order.

A 'lights out' punching and shearing facility and sophisticated bending and folding cells are also being planned.

QMP has already recruited six new members of staff and will be looking to take on further staff during 2014.

## Structure in place as fire station shapes up



An artist's impression of Cradley Heath's new fire station



Starting to take shape, with the opening due in May

A NEW £4 million fire station is beginning to take shape after the erection of a huge two-storey metal frame.

The station, on the junction of Halesowen Road and Barrs Road in Cradley Heath, is quickly going up ahead of its expected opening in May. The split-level building on a 1.1 acre site next to Haden Hill Leisure Centre will be the base to 44 firefighters as well as being available to a West Midlands Ambulance Service crew and vehicle. Rob Ash, surveyor for West Midlands Fire Service, said: "People who live near or pass the site will have seen the new station literally taking shape in the last few weeks.

"Most of the steel frame is now complete, and the first floor slabs are being fitted. Masonry work is also under way, and this month we will see a start being made on walls, cladding and roofing." The station will have three vehicle bays, with a new brigade response vehicle expected to be housed there from 2015.

## Major venue funeral for inspirational Steve



His bravery moved thousands - Steve Evans with daughters Megan and Lauren and his wife Septina

THE funeral of an inspirational father who shared his story of living with incurable cancer with thousands of people over the internet will be held at Wolverhampton's Civic Hall next month.

Steve Evans, aged 52, died last week after living with stomach cancer for more than two years. In that time the retired building surveyor gained more than 26,000 followers on Twitter and became a star guest on TV and radio.

The service, on February 3 at 12.30pm, will be the first time in the 75-year history of the Civic Hall that it has been used for a funeral and a huge turnout is expected.

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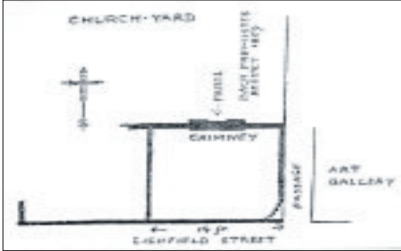
An early 20th Century picture which shows St Peter's Church and the Gardens



A photograph of St Peter's Gardens and the Art Gallery which was taken in the early 20th Century



Lichfield Street North Side photographed in about 1870



Plan showing the position of the panel in Waed Hall

# When various trades were found side by side

ST Peter's Close is now a walkway from Lichfield Street to Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, between the elegant Art Gallery facade and green oasis of St Peter's Gardens.

Before the Victorian redevelopment of this area, it was the 'Old Churchyard', including the path that leads through the gardens at the back of Barclays Bank to Lich Gates, and had many buildings fronting it – houses, the Cross Keys public house, people carrying on various trades.

These included: Sarah Pauton (milliner), Charles Trige (tailor), Ann Stringer (schoolmistress), Thomas Lane (japanner), John Green (currier), Benjamin Barrett (sexton) Mary Clark (school-mistress), William Evans (coffeemill maker) and Edward Francis (labourer).

These were shown in the 1800 Rate Book.

Properties backing on to build-

ings fronting Lichfield Street were

subject to 'Pooler's Dole', a liability to pay 13s 4d (67p) to 40 poor people each Good Friday. There were properties which gave the right to 'Kneelings' or 'Sittings' in St Peter's Church where some pews were privately owned.

### Connection

Whether the old churchyard was ever used as a fold, one property, next to where the art gallery stands now, had a major connection with the wool and cloth trade.

It contained a recessed panel below a Tudor chimneystack carrying four coats of arms – the Royal Arms as borne by Henry VIII, Edward VI and Elizabeth I, the Arms of the Drapers' Company, the Arms of the City of London, and the Arms of the Merchants of the Staple.

It would have been the Waed

Hall, where wool traders did their business, and was mentioned in 1508 when the Manor Court of Featherstone was held there. The 19th century owner, William Turner, recognised the importance of the panel and promised he would carefully preserve it.

He did so while he was alive, but record of its existence disappeared after he died.

After the Lichfield Street redevelopment, Lichfield Diocese granted a faculty to allow the lower part of the Gardens to be laid out, and allowed the upper part, which had been St Peter's churchyard, to be converted into Gardens in 1937.

For further information read *The Folds of Wolverhampton* published by Breun Books and look at [www.wolverhamptonfolds.co.uk](http://www.wolverhamptonfolds.co.uk), a website to inform people, promote the Folds and encourage their improvement, development and further use. Archive photographs courtesy Wolverhampton Archives and Local Studies.



Photograph of St Peter's Close taken in 2004 (Joyce Perry)

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Then it's on to the amazing city of Acre. Explore the beautifully vaulted and huge Knights Halls which are in a state of almost unrivalled preservation and display medieval European military architecture. A stop in Nazareth is then made to visit the great church of the annunciation before continuing on to Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee.

Crossing the Sea of Galilee by boat a visit is made to Capernaum, where Jesus lived, and nearby is Tabgha, the site of the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000. Overlooking the whole area is the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus gave the Sermon on the Mount.

Surrounded by haunting desert scenery is the Dead Sea. Take a dip and bob like a cork – definitely one of life's must-do experiences! Then journey to the spectacular fortress of Masada, the site of one of the ancient Roman's greatest sieges and where the desert climate has preserved the site and the eight Roman encampments surrounding the fortress.

In Jerusalem there's so much to see and experience. Visit the Mount of Olives and the world's oldest continually used cemetery for a panoramic view of the ancient city, punctuated by the beautiful Dome of the Rock where Muhammed rose to heaven.

After touring the Garden of Gethsemane, enter the warren of streets and alleyways that make up the Old City. Visit the Western Wall and walk along the Via Dolorosa before finally arriving at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre built over Golgotha where Jesus was crucified. The decoration here is astounding and contains the final five Stations of the Cross, the church is uniquely shared between the Catholic, Orthodox and Armenian churches.

A visit to the Yad Vashem is where the Holocaust memorial is located and the Shrine of the Book where the Dead Sea Scrolls are displayed.

Finally, arriving in Bethlehem, visit the Church of the Nativity and Shepherd's Fields. It is one of the oldest churches in the Holy Land still in use and marks the site where the Virgin Mary is said to have given birth to Jesus.



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MNA Media



## Dream dance chance



Olivia Hardiman, 13, from the Walsall Academy of Dance. A TEENAGER'S elegant dance steps have landed her a place in a national awards event.

When Olivia Hardiman took her theatre craft Grade Five exam she was rewarded with a score of 91 per cent – and has now been invited to perform at the International Theatre Dance Awards in Manchester next month.

The 13-year-old who attends Walsall Academy of Dance, in Butts Road, said: "I was really pleased when I got my results, but I didn't think anything of it until my dance teacher told my mum I was going to Manchester for the awards."

Olivia is a pupil at Walsall Academy and previously attended Lodge Farm JMI School.

## NEWS

# Tickets for Jon charity tribute gig are sold out

ALL tickets for a tribute charity concert dedicated to the late Charlatans drummer Jon Brookes have been snapped up – just days after they went on sale.

Local bands will be performing at Darlaston All Active on February 8. Britain's Got Talent finalist Connie Talbot is among the star acts set to take to the stage. Mr Brookes, who was from Burntwood, died last August at Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham after battling a brain tumour.

The gig has been organised by Adam Paget, a life-long friend of Mr Brookes.

He said in the four days after they first went on sale all 480 tickets for the event had been sold.

Mr Paget said: "We could have sold double the number to be honest."

"I've been inundated with calls from people who want to buy tickets."

"We're thinking that if people just want to stay for one act, we can have their tickets and sell them on again."

"It means more people can come along and get in."

The tickets cost £6 each, so already almost £3,000 has been raised for the Brain Tumour Charity.

Mr Paget said Connie Talbot fans were coming to the concert from as far away as Scotland.

Performers on the night

by Simon Stone

include the bands Marquis Drive once managed by Mr Brookes as well as Isolated Atoms, Junk Monkey, Little Liam, The Rimes, Idle and Spectrum.

A guitar signed by East-Enders' Danny Dyer and one signed by Welsh rockers Stereophonics will be auctioned to raise funds.

Cannock Orpheus Male Voice Choir will also be performing a Charlatans hit.

A fundraising raffle will be held with prizes including £500 worth of vouchers from Liam Gallagher's clothing range Pretty Green.

And Wolverhampton artist Paul Pilgrim will auction off paintings of Mr Brookes.

More than 200 mourners attended father-of-three Mr Brookes' funeral at Christ Church in Burntwood.

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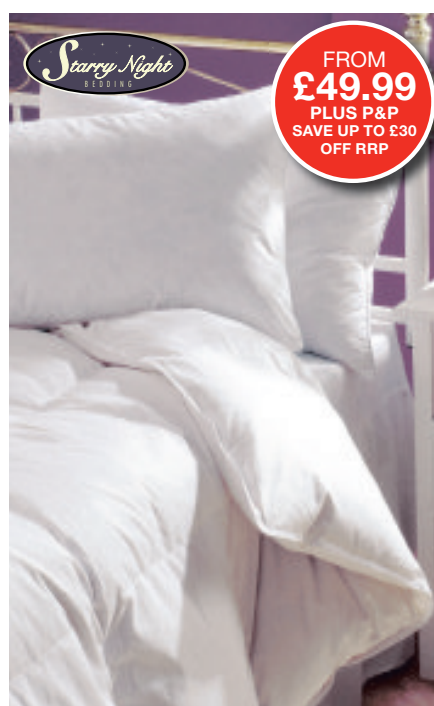
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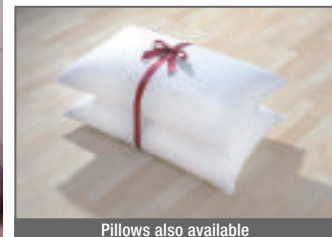


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# What's On!

## All eyes were on dynamic violinist

Joshua Bell with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

EVEN the most glorious of concerts can have you launched into a reverie. After the initial excitement of applauding the conductor and occasional glance at the ranks, it is not uncommon to look skywards and dream. Not so on Saturday with a concert that was all action from start to finish.

The drama began with the announcement that Beethoven's Eroica symphony would be changing places with Brahms' Concerto in D major. Nothing like a change in the programme to instigate a few raised eyebrows.

Then came Bell in his dual role as violin soloist and conductor for the opening Chaconne by Bach. Backed by just the strings it made a gentle start to the night with all eyes on Joshua asserting himself from behind his bow. He was suitably serene.

His stance was a warm-up for the dynamic Brahms which saw an extremely physical Bell conducting almost by dueling with the musicians, using his whole body. By the time the orchestra got to the Beethoven the audience was braced for the sheer energy and joy of this popular piece. We were not disappointed as three encores testified. It would have been four if Bell had not concluded with a cheeky look at his watch before exiting stage right.

SARAH COWEN-STRONG

# Plenty to laugh about as top comedians lift winter blues

## Brides found for brothers in yee-haw show

A RIP-ROARING musical set on America's frontier has been revived in a spectacular new production of Seven Brides For Seven Brothers, which is being staged at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre from February 3 to 8.

It may not be the most promising subject for a musical, seven backwoods brothers who are inspired by the ancient Romans' seizure of the Sabine women to kidnap their own brides, but it has produced several toe-tapping tunes including Bless Your Beautiful Hide.

### Choreographer

And the lovelorn beefcakes find their potential wives are more than a match for them, teaching them manners and how to dance.

Award-winning American choreographer and director Patti Colombo has assembled a cast including former EastEnders and Dancing On Ice star Sam Attwater as the elder Pontipee brother and Helena Blackman as his intended Milly. Miss Blackman was the runner-up in Andrew Lloyd-Webber's TV search for The Sound Of Music revival star in How Do You Solve A Problem Like Maria?



Sam Attwater as Adam Pontipee with Helena Blackman as Milly

## COMEDY stars are coming to the Black Country and Birmingham.

Jack Whitehall has a warm up gig for his arena tour at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on February 12. He will be back in the West Midlands at Birmingham NIA on March 14.

The Black Country's Frank Skinner is returning to his stand-up roots with his Man In A Suit tour coming to Wolverhampton Civic Hall on April 16 and 17, then at Birmingham Symphony Hall from April 22 to 24. Mancunian Jason Manford is at the Civic Hall tomorrow night and the venue features Ed Byrne tackling his midlife crisis on February 22.

The Slade Rooms host Gary Delaney (Feb 20), Richard Herring (Feb 28), sulky Liam Williams (Mar 4), Paul Sinha from The Chase (Mar 6), MTV's Joel Dommett (Mar 7), the WitTank gang (Mar 9), Tough Luvvie Hal Crutten (Mar 10) and Simon Evans (Apr 17). The Wulfrun has Festival of the Spoken Nerd (Jan 31), Jimoein (Feb 11) and Miles Kane (Mar 14).

Playing a smaller venue than usual is the hyperactive Lee Evans, who has sold out all his dates in February and March at Birmingham Glee Club. The Arcadian Centre venue also hosts The Real McCoy crew on February 2. Paul Chowdhry has added a



Warm-up - Jack Whitehall

date on February 25 (also at the Wulfrun on May 1), Richard Herring is Glee-bound March 9 and grumpy American Rich Hall on March 12.

Other Brummie highlights include: activist Mark Thomas at the MAC, Edgbaston, on January 31 and February 1; Miles Jupp, MAC (Feb 19); Punt and Dennis, Birmingham Town Hall (Feb 26); International Women's Day with Bridget Christie, Lucy Porter, Shazia Mirza, Grace Petrie and Fred McAulay, Town Hall (Mar 8), Sarah Millican, Symphony Hall (Mar 21-23).

## Strictly fabulous victory for Natalie

Strictly Come Dancing Live Tour, NIA

REIGNING Strictly Come Dancing champion Abbey Clancy may have scored top marks with the judges but it was Natalie Gumede who waltzed away with the glitter ball on the first night of the tour at Birmingham's NIA.

The judges put Abbey in what seemed like an unbeatable position with a perfect 60 out of 60 but Natalie, one point behind, obviously impressed the voting audience with her fine footwork, either that or it was the chest of her partner Artem.

Hosted by former contestant Lisa Riley, the show was sheer entertainment with the professional dancers' impressive displays and, of course, the banter with the three judges Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli and the critical Craig Revel Horwood, who did let his face crack once - purely a mistake darling! It was all a bit pantoish but went down well with the audience.

Susanna Reid proved popular and the lovely Mark Benton thrilled everyone but the judges and ended up bottom of the leaderboard, above the very enthusiastic dragon Deborah Meaden. Rugby hunk, Ben Cohen, impressed with his muscles as much as his dancing and making a popular comeback was Nicky Byrne, the 2012 contestant was not rusty with his excellent Charleston. **SUE ATTWATER**

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## What's On!

## SATURDAY'S TV 25.01.14

Listings supplied by Press Association

## CHOICE



Emma Willis

## The Voice UK

**BBC1, 7pm**  
There was a danger The Voice was growing stale as Will.i.am and Tom Jones dropped more names than a Brit awards announcer. Thankfully a necessary shot in the arm came in the form of pop princess Kylie Minogue, while Kaiser Chief Ricky Wilson has proved a welcome addition too. It didn't hurt that Emma Willis and Marvin Humes joined as hosts either. Each judge selected at least one singer from episode one, but a couple of questions dominate this show: who will leave Kylie and her fellow judges spinning around this week, and who will get the cold shoulder?

## BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Good Cook. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **12.45** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **1.15** Inspire: The Olympic Journey. A Winter Olympics special. **1.45** Live Athletics: UK Indoor Match. **4.30** Final Score. **5.20** Dynamo: Magician Impossible. **6.00** Reflex. Families from Eastbourne and Yorkshire battle each other in a series of physical and mental challenges. Hosted by Shane Richie. **6.45** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **7.00** The Voice UK. Emma Willis and Marvin Humes host the third round of blind auditions, with coaches Kylie Minogue, Tom Jones, Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson aiming to bolster their teams further. **8.15** The National Lottery: Who Dares Wins. Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which two pairs of strangers compete by listing as much as they know about given subjects. Including the Lotto and Thunderball draws. **9.10** Casualty. Dixie confronts a suspected rapist during a night out – only to be accused of assault herself when he falls and hits his head. Ethan and Cal help a little boy gets his voice back. **10.00** Mrs Brown's Boys. (R) **10.30** BBC News: Weather: National Lottery Update. **10.50** Film: Air Force One. (1997) Action thriller, starring Harrison Ford. **12.45** Film: The Two Mr Kissels. (2008) **2.10** Weatherview. **2.15** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.00** This Is BBC Two. **6.45** Film: The Spanish Main. (1945) **8.25** Live Tennis: Australian Open Women's Final. **11.30** Great British Railway Journeys. (R) **12.00** The A to Z of TV Cooking. **12.45** The Big Bread Experiment. (R) **1.45** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.30** Live International Bowls. **4.30** Coast. (R) **5.00** Wild Arabia. (R) **6.00** Wild Arabia. Exploring the mountains of Dhoofar in Oman, where the annual Indian Ocean monsoon has helped create a lost world of waterfalls and cloud forests filled with fascinating wildlife. (R) **7.00** Flog It! Experts Philip Serrell and Charlie Ross examine heirlooms in Tavistock. Devon, while presenter Paul Martin has a look around Endsleigh Gardens. (R) **8.00** Dad's Army. Frazer is asked to look after the platoon's Lewis gun, but finds himself in hot water when he misplaces the spring – and fears it is has been left inside a coffin. (R) **8.30** Morecambe & Wise in Pieces: At Home. Penelope Keith presents a look through the archives at the parts of the comedy duo's shows in which they appeared in sketches set in domestic situations. **9.30** QI XL. An extended edition of the quiz, as Stephen Fry asks Victoria Coren Mitchell, Bill Bailey, Jimmy Carr and Alan Davies questions on the topic of jargon. **10.15** Film: West Is West. (2010) Comedy sequel, starring Om Puri. **11.55** International Bowls. **12.55** This Is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: Pat & Stan. **6.10** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.20** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Animals. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.05** Animals. (R) **7.10** Animals. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Scrambled. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Dinner Date. (R) **10.25** Film: She Wrote. (R) **11.25** ITV News: Weather. **11.30** Catchphrase. (R) **12.15** Live FA Cup Football. **3.00** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **3.40** You've Been Framed! (R) **4.10** Film: Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang. (2010) **6.20** Regional Programme: Weather. **6.30** ITV News: Weather. **6.45** Splash! Jenny Eclair, Austin Healey, Pollyanna Woodward, Una Foden and Richard Whitehead compete for two places in next week's semi-final with help from coach Tom Daley. **8.15** Take Me Out. A Cornwall surfer, a festival lover from Watford, a Bedford carpenter and a Take That tribute star from Manchester try to impress a panel of women. Paddy McGuinness presents. **9.30** The Jonathan Ross Show. The host subjects another batch of celebrity guests to no-holds-barred questioning. Plus, musical performances by A-list bands and solo artists. **10.30** ITV News: Weather. **10.45** FA Cup Football Highlights. Action from the completed fourth-round matches, including Southend United v Hull City, Bolton Wanderers v Cardiff City and Sunderland v Kidderminster Harriers. **12.00** The Cube. (R) **12.50** Jackpot247. **3.00** Ladette to Lady: Australia. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen.

## CHANNEL 4

**6.10** The American Football Show: The Road to the Super Bowl. (R) **7.05** Trans World Sport. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **11.30** How I Met Your Mother. **11.55** The Simpsons. (R) **12.25** The Taste. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.30** Come Dine with Me. (R) **6.00** Come Dine with Me. Chintu Gademsetty hosts the final dinner party in east London. (R) **6.30** Channel 4 News. **7.00** Speed with Guy Martin. The racing fan embarks on a mission to fly using muscle power alone, teaming up with engineers from Southampton University to build the fastest man-powered aircraft in the world. (R) **8.00** Bigfoot Files. Geneticist Bryan Sykes and presenter Mark Evans embark on a global quest to solve the riddle of mysterious creatures such as the sasquatch. (R) **9.00** Hostages. President Kincaid decides to switch doctors. **10.00** Film: Underworld: Rise of the Lycans. (2009) Premiere. Fantasy horror prequel, starring Michael Sheen. **11.45** Film: 30 Days of Night. (2007) Horror, starring Josh Hartnett. **1.50** Southland. (R) **2.35** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.50** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.45** Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** Power Rangers: Megaforce. (R) **10.35** Access. **10.50** World's Worst Holiday Horrors. (R) **11.50** Celebrity Big Brother: Live Eviction. (R) **1.15** Film: Legally Blonde. (2001) **3.00** Diagnosis Murder. (R) **4.00** Film: Columbo: A Deadly State of Mind. (1975) **5.35** Film: Columbo: A Matter of Honour. (1976) **6.50** NCIS. Tony tries to piece together the chain of events that led to him being shot. (R) **7.40** NCIS. The team joins forces with military investigators to ascertain whether terrorists were responsible for an explosion at a golf course in which a marine colonel was killed. (R) **8.30** NCIS. A former marine falls to his death from a hotel balcony, and investigations lead the team to the discovery of another body – along with a vice ring trafficking young girls. (R) **9.20** 5 News Weekend. **9.30** Celebrity Big Brother. With the reality series extended for an extra five days, further highlights of yesterday's goings-on, including reaction to another eviction ahead of Wednesday's final. **10.30** Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Psych. Psychological analysis of the housemates' behaviour. **11.45** Ultimate Police Interceptors. (R) **12.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** Road Terror: Caught on Camera. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.10** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.30** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Hana's Helpline. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Great Movie Mistakes: Revenge of the Fifth **7.15** Top Gear **8.15** Film: The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian (2008) **10.30** Russell Howard's Good News **11.00** Family Guy **BBC Four**  
**7.00** Wild China **8.00** Pain, Pus & Poison: The Search for Modern Medicines **9.00** The Bridge **11.00** Forever Young – How Rock 'n' Roll Grew Up **ITV2**  
**2.30** Film: Honey (2003) **4.25** You've Been Framed! **5.25** You've Been Framed and Famous! **6.30** Film: The Perfect Storm (2000) **9.00** Film: Die Another Day (2002) **11.45** The Maguluf Weekender **ITV3**  
**3.50** Agatha Christie's Poirot **4.55** Inspector Morse **6.55** Rosemary & Thyme **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** A Touch of Frost **ITV4**  
**3.20** Film: Lonely Are the Brave (1962) **5.35** Film: Rooster Cogburn (1975) **7.50** Hornblower. First episode of the seafaring drama. **10.00** Film: The Tomorrow People **9.00** Film: Terminator Salvation (2009) **11.15** The Big Bang Theory **11.45** Rude Tube 2012 **Film4**  
**3.10** I Wanna Hold Your Hand (1978) **5.05** Flash Gordon (1980) **7.15** John Tucker Must Die (2006) **9.00** Braveheart (1995) Oscar-winning historical epic, directed by and starring Mel Gibson.

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## What's On!

Listings supplied by Press Association

## SUNDAY'S TV 26.01.14

## CHOICE



Evan Davis

## Dragons' Den

**BBC2, 9pm**  
Savvy businessmen and women have managed to get their products out to the masses regardless of the entrepreneurs' interest. Hungry House, a takeaway website, has done rather well. But who out of this week's wannabe tycoons will manage to secure funds? Among those pitching are graduates from Manchester offering a stake in their youth-orientated package holiday business; the Bulgarian inventor of a self-filling bath; and a 20-year-old from Essex hoping to impress the Dragons with a cure for water-damaged mobile phones.

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** Wanted Down Under. (R) **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Moving On. (R) **2.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.45** Helicopter Heroes. **3.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.00** Songs of Praise. **4.35** Hidden Kingdoms. (R) **5.35** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **6.00** Fake or Fortune? Fiona Bruce and Philip Mould investigate the authenticity of two paintings – one in London, one from Detroit – that might be by one of Britain's best-loved artists, John Constable. **7.00** Countryfile. Ellie Harrison and John Craven visit the Gwaun Valley and Preseli Hills in north Pembrokeshire, uncovering Iron Age treasures and giving an ancient forest a new lease of life. Including Weather for the Week Ahead. **8.00** Call the Midwife. Jenny Baines a mum-to-be whose baby was not fathered by her husband – and to complicate matters, the real father is dead. Cynthia is inspired by a lecture on natural childbirth. **9.00** The Musketeers. D'Artagnan tries to prove he is worthy of joining the Musketeers, while they try to outwit a criminal who is threatening the king from his prison cell. Jason Fleming guest stars. **10.00** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **10.25** Film: Meet the Fockers. (2004) Comedy sequel, with Ben Stiller and Robert De Niro. **12.15** Weatherwise. **12.20** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.00** Film: Hue and Cry. (1947) **7.20** Countryfile Winter Special. (R) **8.15** Live Tennis: Australian Open Men's Final. Sue Barker presents coverage of the men's singles final at Melbourne Park. **12.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. (R) **1.30** The Big Bread Experiment. (R) **2.30** Live International Bowls. The World Indoor Championships. **5.15** Ski Sunday. **6.00** Wild Arabia. The changes that have swept across the Arabian peninsula since the discovery of oil, and how technology is being used to protect nature in a modern society. Last in the series. (R) **7.00** Flog It! Charlie Ross and Philip Sarrell help contestants sell antiques at auction in Tenby, Pembrokeshire. Paul Martin presents. (R) **8.00** The Coffee Trail with Simon Reeve. The adventurer examines the coffee industry in Vietnam, meeting some of the millions of people involved in picking, packing and transporting it to the UK. **9.00** Dragons' Den. The business ideas contest returns after a mid-series break. A 20-year-old entrepreneur from Essex pitches an ingenious cure for water-damaged mobile phones. **10.00** Film: Blood Diamond. (2006) A smuggler helps a fisherman find his missing son in war-torn Sierra Leone, in return for a rare pink diamond. Action thriller, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Djimon Hounsou. **12.10** Sign Zone: Countryfile Winter Special. (R) **1.10** Holby City. (R) **2.10** This Is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: Pat & Stan. **6.10** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.20** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Animals. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.10** Animals. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Scrambled! **9.25** TV News. **9.30** The Crocodile Hunter Diaries. (R) **10.00** Inside the National Trust. **11.00** ITV News: Weather. **11.15** Splash! **12.45** Film: From Russia with Love. (1963) **3.00** Live FA Cup Football. **5.50** Regional Programme: Weather. **6.00** ITV News: Weather. **6.15** Dancing on Ice. The nine remaining celebrities continue their quest to be named the ultimate Dancing on Ice champion, and Torvill and Dean perform a routine in collaboration with Rebecca Ferguson. The results are at 8.30pm. **7.45** All Star Family Fortunes. Brian Mcadden and Diane Parish take part. **8.30** Dancing on Ice: The Skate Off. Another star skater is eliminated. **9.00** Mr Selfridge. A protest stirs up emotions among the staff, with some asking whether Harry will leave if he breaks out, while Lord Loxley thwarts Lady Mae's plans to escape to the country. **10.00** ITV News at Ten: Weather. **10.15** Birds of a Feather. The girls become involved with three very different men. **10.45** FA Cup Football Highlights. Action from today's fourth-round matches. **11.45** Anglo-Welsh Cup Rugby Union. **12.45** The Store. **2.45** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **4.10** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

## CHANNEL 4

**6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **6.50** Snowdonia Marathon. **8.00** Will & Grace. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.25** How I Met Your Mother. **1.55** How I Met Your Mother. **2.20** The Simpsons. (R) **2.50** The Simpsons. (R) **3.20** Deal or No Deal. **4.25** Channel 4 News. **4.55** Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) **6.00** Film: Mirror Mirror. (2012) Premiere. An exiled princess joins forces with a band of dwarfs to wrest back her father's kingdom from her stepmother. Fantasy, with Julia Roberts. **8.00** The Jump. New series. Celebrities battle it out in a series of challenging winter sport disciplines and two of them face a live ski jump each night to keep their place in the competition. Continues tomorrow. **9.00** Film: Unstoppable. (2010) Two train operators must stop a runaway locomotive carrying toxic chemicals before it causes a major disaster. Action thriller, with Denzel Washington. **10.50** Film: GI Joe: The Rise of Cobra. (2009) Two soldiers join a top-secret military strike force to battle terrorists who have stolen a deadly experimental weapon. Action adventure, with Channing Tatum. **1.05** Mesh: Tourist Trap. (R) **1.10** Night Walking. (R) **1.15** Film: Day Watch. (2006) **3.25** Southland. (R) **4.10** Enough. (R) **4.15** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R) **5.10** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) **5.30** Deal or No Deal. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowerfrogs. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.40** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** City of Friends. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.40** Rupert Bear. (R) **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Milkshake! Show Songs. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** Lazy Town. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers: Super Samurai. (R) **10.35** Access. **10.45** The Town the Travellers Took Over. (R) **11.40** Celebrity Big Brother. (R) **12.40** Terror in the Skies: Scariest Flights. (R) **1.40** Road Terror: Caught on Camera. (R) **2.40** Film: Bewitched. (2005) **4.40** Film: Fairytale: A True Story. (1995) **6.35** Film: Outbreak. (1995) An outbreak in a hospital as doctors search for the cure for a lethal airborne virus threatening to turn into a pandemic. Thriller, with Dustin Hoffman. **8.50** 5 News Weekend. **9.00** Celebrity Big Brother: Live Eviction. Another housemate is given the boot. **10.00** Film: Harry Brown. (2009) Crime thriller, starring Michael Caine. **11.55** Autopsy: Anna Nicole Smith's Last Hours. (R) **12.55** SuperCats. **3.10** My Post-Baby Breakdown: Jennifer Ellison. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.20** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.10** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.30** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Hana's Helpline. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Great Movie Mistakes IV: May the Fourth Be with You **7.45** The Voice UK **9.00** Sun. Sex and Suspicious Parents: Thailand **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Uncle **11.15** American Dad!  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Hidden Histories: Britain's Oldest Family Businesses **8.00** The Review Show **9.00** Storyville: The Big Melt – How Steel Made Us Hard **10.10** Film: We Are What We Are (2010) **11.35** Horror Europa with Mark Gatiss  
**ITV2**  
**2.40** Film: Miss Congeniality (2000) **4.50** Film: Peter Pan (2003) **7.00** Film: Despicable Me (2010) **9.00** The Magulaf Weekender **10.00** Film: The Bourne Supremacy (2004)  
**ITV3**  
**2.40** Film: Columbo: Troubled Waters (1975) **4.40** Agatha Christie's Marple **6.45** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** Film: Intolerable Cruelty (2003) **11.05** Cracker  
**ITV4**  
**2.00** Film: Aces High (1976) **4.15** Film: Dunkirk (1958) **7.00** Storage Wars **8.00** Anglo-Welsh Cup Rugby Union **9.00** Film: Hard Target (1993) **11.00** Hell on Wheels **11.55** Film: Born to Raise Hell (2010)  
**E4**  
**4.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **5.00** The Tomorrow People **6.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** Film: Furry Vengeance (2010) **9.50** Rude Tube 2012 **10.50** 8 Out of 10 Cats Uncut **11.40** The Big Bang Theory  
**Film4**  
**3.00** The 7th Voyage of Sinbad (1958) **4.45** Dr Dollittle (1998) **6.25** The Way Back (2010) **9.00** Kick-Ass (2010) **11.20** The Black Dahlia (2006)

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## What's On!

### Film Choices

#### MONDAY

##### Carolina Moon, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman returns to her home town, where she discovers that the killer of her childhood friend is still terrorising the community, and embarks on a mission to track him down before he claims another life. However, while trying to capture the murderer, romance unexpectedly blossoms between her and the handsome older brother of her deceased friend. Romantic mystery, starring Claire Forlani and Oliver Hudson. (2007)

#### TUESDAY

##### Little Voice, BBC1, 11.35pm

A painfully shy woman has a talent for impersonating famous performers including Shirley Bassey, Marilyn Monroe and Judy Garland. She is spotted by a greedy promoter who instinctively realises her considerable money-spinning potential, but the shrinking violet proves reluctant to step into the limelight. Comedy drama, with Jane Horrocks and Michael Caine. (1998)

#### WEDNESDAY

##### Fatal Trust, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A widow returns to the small town where she grew up to recover from her grief at the loss of her husband, and gets a job as a secretary to the local doctor. She becomes suspicious about the surprising number of patients who die after treatment, and becomes convinced the seemingly kind medic is poisoning them. Crime drama, starring Amy Jo Johnson. (2006)



The Siege, Friday, Channel 5, 10pm

#### THURSDAY

##### A Trick of the Mind, Channel 5, 3.10pm

A woman discovers a private eye is spying on her husband. When she confronts the detective, he claims her spouse is holding secrets back and that her life is in danger if she remains with him. She faces a dilemma over who to believe and how to uncover the truth without revealing her suspicions. Thriller, starring Alexandra Holden and Stacy Grant. (2006)

#### FRIDAY

##### The Siege, Channel 5, 10pm

New York is placed under martial law after a series of bombings and hijackings involving hundreds of casualties causes widespread panic, prompting a desperate bid by the FBI to find the terrorist cell responsible before full-scale civil unrest takes hold of the city. Thriller, starring Denzel Washington. (1998)

##### Saw IV, Channel 4, 11.20pm

Sadistic killer Jigsaw is dead, but FBI agents discover he has an accomplice who is continuing his fiendish games. Horror sequel, starring Costas Mandylor, Athena Karkanis, Scott Patterson, Tobin Bell and Betsy Russell. (2007)

### Pick of the Week

## Ice cool celebrities face a wintery challenge

Is there really space in our schedules for yet another celebrities-under-the-microscope series?

Dancing on Ice's final series is still on air, and we've only just said farewell to the latest run of Celebrity Big Brother. We've even had a brief run of a celeb-themed Great British Bake Off recently.

But Channel 4 clearly think we need to see more famous faces out of their comfort zone – and the dozen handpicked for this new sporting reality show, hosted by Davina McCall and Alex Brooker, will definitely be that.

With the start of Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, just a couple of weeks away, the broadcaster will be trying to get us in the mood for more snow and ice-based action by revealing how 12 familiar folk get on as they undergo rigorous instruction in seven winter sports – skeleton, bobsleigh, speed skating, speed skiing, skier cross, slalom and ski jump – before competing against each other.

Liam Humphreys, Channel 4's head of factual entertainment, says of the show: "This promises to be a hugely

entertaining and ambitious event and we can't wait to take both our contestants and the audience on a white knuckle, vertigo-inducing ride."

Those taking part are former rower Steve Redgrave, ex-cricketer Darren Gough, comedian Marcus Brigstocke, hairdresser Nicky Clarke, party promoter Henry Corway, 5ive's Ritchie Neville, ex-Pussycat Doll Kimberly Wyatt, Essex girl Amy Childs, singer Sinitta, and TV presenters Anthea Turner, Melinda Messenger and Laura Hamilton.

They've been taken to a European destination for filming, where Winter Olympians Graham Bell and Amy Williams have been putting them through their paces. We'll get to see how they're getting on via on-piste reports and slow-motion footage of them in action.

We may also get to see two other stars on the slopes. The original line-up included socialist Tara Palmer-Tomkinson and Flash Gordon actor Sam Jones. They were replaced by Hamilton and Neville respectively; Palmer-Tomkinson withdrew after deciding the contest wasn't for her, while Jones was forced to quit by

injury, which is a shame – those of us who grew up in the 1970s and 1980s would have loved to have seen how 'Flash' dealt with life on the slopes.

Both celebs did take part in some training, so hopefully we'll get to see some of it in the first programme.

Even those with only scant knowledge of sport will have realised that there's more potential for danger in this show than in, say, Dancing on Ice or Strictly Come Dancing. But it's the final challenge that really sends shivers down the spine.

The programme will be broadcast over nine consecutive nights, and whichever duo score the lowest number of points in each edition must take part in the terrifying ski jump to secure their place in the contest.

Good job Eddie 'The Eagle' Edwards is on hand with advice...

"The format is simple and compelling; the scale is enormous," says executive producer Andrew MacKenzie. "I'm looking forward to seeing our first skier patiently waiting at the top of a large ski jump ramp."

Aren't we all?



The Jump, Sunday, Channel 4, 8pm

### Best of the Rest

#### MONDAY

##### Britain's Great War BBC1, 9pm

As Britain prepares to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War, some politicians and historians have expressed concern that too many of us seem to have based our understanding of the conflict on repeats of Blackadder Goes Forth. Hopefully, they won't have quite so many objections to this new four-part series, which has been co-produced with The Open University, and looks at the role 'The Great War' played in creating Britain as we know it. In the opening episode, Jeremy Paxman charts the early stages of the war, including the mass recruitment of volunteer soldiers. But he also looks at how it affected the people left at home, who were gripped by a terror of invasion, seeing spies everywhere.

#### TUESDAY

##### Death in Paradise BBC1, 9pm

The focus of this week's show is Fidel's suave old school friend, Carlton Parish, who he sees at an art gallery with Dorothy Foster, a wealthy older woman. When he is later shot at home, Humphrey and the team dig deeper into the case, and discover Parish was an escort who broke many a heart during his work. A local judge and the wife of a club owner are among his unhappy customers. However, as more secrets are revealed, Fidel has a hard time keeping a lid on his emotions, and he to confront some long-buried issues. Kris Marshall and Gary Carr

head the cast, while Josette Simon is among the guest stars.

##### Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans ITV, 9pm

You can run but you can't hide from Paul O'Grady. He's everywhere at the moment, and luckily for us animal-loving softies, he's usually accompanied by a furry friend or three. This latest series has taken the presenter's own passion for animals and blown it up on a much bigger scale, sending him to South Africa and Zambia to meet animals that have been orphaned in the wild. But like all good things, it must come to an end, and in tonight's final episode, Paul is at Chipembele Animal Rescue, where he meets Douglas, a hippo calf who was found at five months old wandering alone near the Zambezi River. He also bottle feeds milk to a baby giraffe, and spends time with his favourite baby elephant, Nakala.

#### WEDNESDAY

##### Celebrity Big Brother: The Final Channel 5, 9pm

It seems like no time at all since the latest raft of celebs entered the house, but already it's time for the nail-biting finale as Emma Willis whittles the remaining housemates down until this year's winner is known. And while it may have only lasted a few weeks, we've had no end of memorable moments – some of which we only wish we could scrub from our minds (and many of them involving Jasmine). We've had

romance, we've had tears, and we've had a heavyweight boxer covered in guano – it's all par for the course in Hertfordshire's most famous bungalow. But now, after three weeks of nominations, tasks and evictions, it's all about to come to a dramatic end.

##### Horizon: Sugar v Fat BBC2, 9pm

Chances are for the past month, post-Christmas, we've all been hitting the gym and carefully monitoring the foods we're putting in our body. It's all very well counting the calories, but what harm is all the sugar and fat in those foods really doing? Doctors Chris and Xand van Tulleken are identical twins, and for the purpose of this programme, are going on month-long diets containing high volumes of fat or sugar to determine which is worse for the human body. The effects on their health prove to be shocking and surprising, however the docs also realise that their biggest enemy may have been staring them in the face the whole time. This is a must-see for all those intent on getting their bodies in tip-top shape this year...



Celebrity Big Brother: The Final, Wednesday, Channel 5, 9pm

#### THURSDAY

##### Dan Snow's History of the Winter Olympics BBC2, 9pm

When the BBC began looking for a historian to present a programme looking back at 90 years of the Winter Olympics, how long do you think it took them to come up with Dan Snow? After all, he does have the perfect name for the job. This one-off documentary proves he has the knowledge too, as he travels across nine countries to learn more about how the Winter Games took shape and how it was affected by politics, whether it was due to Nazism or the tense rivalries of the Cold War. The tension between East and West arguably culminated in the emotional Olympics of Sarajevo in 1984, where Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean skated to victory on the strains of Bolero.

#### FRIDAY

##### Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Martin Kemp ITV, 9pm

Martin Kemp's done rather a lot in his 52 years – enjoyed a lengthy pop life with Spandau Ballet, played iconic villain Steve Owen in EastEnders and even found himself a Celebrity Big Brother finalist – but chances are he's still got plenty of stories to tell given that he's taking to the hotseat in Piers Morgan's studio. Like the fact that he almost died after finding out about a brain tumour which needed major surgery. He talks of the highs and lows of being in one of the most successful groups to emerge from the New Romantic era, his performance in The Krays (both alongside brother Gary of course), and exactly why he owes friend George Michael big time.

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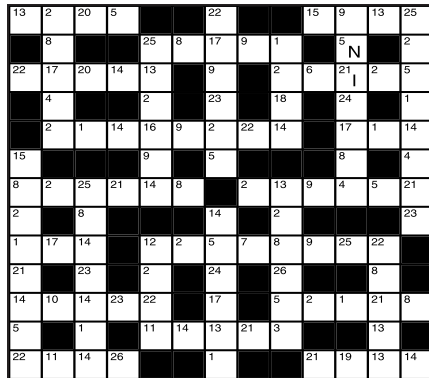
## Puzzler

## Brain Gym

No.257

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

T	U	J	C	K	Y	R	N	P	X	L	M	E
I	W	G	S	H	D	O	B	A	V	Z	Q	F

## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

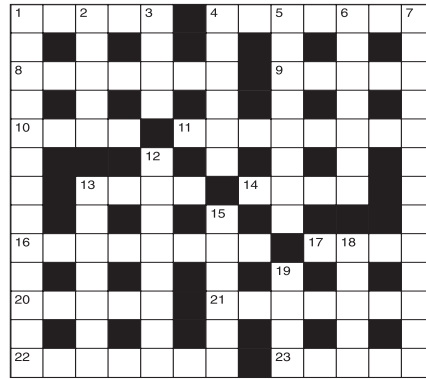
## Cryptic Clues:

## Across

1. Contemplates the patrons of the liberal arts (5)
4. Wanted: a title of respect in the legal paper (7)
8. Officially he's only a beginner (7)
- 9 & 15 Dn. This is used to keep the blades close to the ground (5-6)
10. Require a piece of fine edging (4)
11. Subordinate made to supply an inadequate crew (8)
13. In imprisonment I escaped the bonds (4)
14. A number of horses requiring endless mental application (4)
16. Plausibly deceptive speculation followed by debts (8)
17. Food and money for the journey required (4)
20. What friends do is correspond (5)
21. One among a variety of cattle perceptive to touch (7)
22. Goddess encountered among the stages (7)
23. In the tennis game he is like lightning! (5)

## Down

1. Get the wrong message? (13)
2. Government to make an announcement... (5)
3. ...it's disturbed by eastern position (4)
4. Venturing to put up an advertisement near the arena (6)
5. Get mess put right around northern parts of the sphere (8)
6. Took warlike measures - provided with new members? (7)
7. Breaking off action, but Sid is returning to battle! (13)
12. One who's in a sorry state (8)
13. More confused after the mathematical proof (7)
15. See 9 Across
18. Chemical coming from a hole in the ground (5)
19. Dramatises part of the New Testament (4)



## Quick Clues:

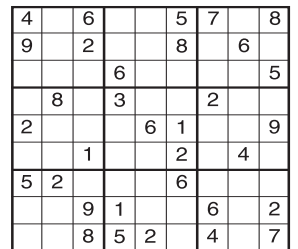
## Across

1. Horrify (5)
4. Feign (7)
8. Sentinel (4-3)
9. Tartan (5)
10. Joy (4)
11. Clumsy (8)
13. Brought up (4)
14. Gentle (4)
16. Conducive to health (8)
17. Droop (4)
20. Nimble (5)
21. Outstanding (7)
22. Dulcify (7)
23. Cloth (5)

## Down

1. Quarrelling (2,11)
2. Verify (5)
3. Plunder (4)
4. Powerful (6)
5. Clearly stated (8)
6. Made possible (7)
7. Crane-fly (5-4-4)
12. Forcible (8)
13. Deceive (7)
15. Repudiate (6)
18. Shelf (5)
19. Look after (4)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS &gt;

7	4	5	2	9	1	6	8	3
9	8	3	6	5	4	7	2	1
2	1	6	7	8	3	4	9	5
1	2	7	4	3	8	5	6	9
3	9	4	5	6	2	1	7	8
5	6	8	1	7	9	2	3	4
8	5	1	3	2	7	9	4	6
6	7	9	8	4	5	3	1	2
4	3	2	9	1	6	8	5	7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 3 Dramatist; 8 Date; 9 Masterful; 10 Cellar; 11 Cheat; 14 Tempo; 15 Note; 16 Reach; 18 Oath; 20 Overt; 21 Earth; 24 Strain; 25 Pin-points; 26 Scan; 27 Degrading. Down: 1 Education; 2 Stalemate; 4 Rear; 5 Match; 6 Tartan; 7 Soul; 9 Major; 11 Crash; 12 Tolerance; 13 Pertinent; 17 Hosts; 19 Hamper; 22 Tried; 23 Line; 24 Sten. QUICK - Across: 3 Qualified; 8 Nail; 9 Aggregate; 10 Obtuse; 11 Fears; 14 Range; 15 Echo; 16 Stiff; 18 Cues; 20 Ample; 21 Dandy; 24 Plaintiff; 25 Frivolous; 26 Hail; 27 Depressed. Down: 1 Incorrect; 2 Distended; 4 Urge; 5 Large; 6 Figure; 7 Eats; 9 Asses; 11 Fairy; 12 Scapular; 13 Forestall; 17 Falls; 19 Salver; 22 Dulls; 23 Free; 24 Pure.



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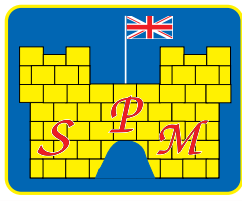
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# Select

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## DUDLEY



**BOURNE STREET**  
£375 pcm\*  
Maisonette, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Off road parking

## KINGSWINFORD



**RANGEWAYS ROAD**  
£490 pcm\*  
Ground Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Garden, Garage

## LOWER GORNAL



**SUMMIT PLACE**  
£575 pcm\*  
Cottage, Lounge, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking

## SEDGLEY



**KINGS ROAD**  
£550 pcm\*  
Mid Terrace Property, Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Rear Garden, Unfurnished

## WORDSLEY



**SANDFIELD ROAD**  
£550 pcm\*  
End Terrace Property, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking

## WOLVERHAMPTON



**DOVEDALE ROAD**  
£650 pcm\*  
End Terrace House, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Single Garage, Front & Rear Gardens, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Available Immediately

## GREAT BRIDGE



**EAGLE PLACE**  
£370 pcm\*  
Modern Apartment, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking, Secure Entrance

## KINGSWINFORD



**COTTAGE STREET**  
£575 pcm\*  
Mid Terrace Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished

## PENSNETT



**HIGH STREET**  
£535 pcm\*  
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking, Single Garage

## KINGSWINFORD



**BEECH ROAD**  
£530 pcm\*  
First Floor Flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Newly Decorated, New Flooring, Available Immediately

## WOODSETTON



**SEDGLEY ROAD**  
£550 pcm\*  
Terraced Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Rear Garden

## STOURBRIDGE



**LICKEY ROAD**  
£650 pcm\*  
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Conservatory, Study, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished

## GORNAL



**EVE LANE**  
£620 pcm\*  
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Unfurnished, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Garage

## WALL HEATH



**HIGH STREET**  
£575 pcm\*  
Modern End Terrace, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished, Rear Garden, Off Road Parking

## KINGSWINFORD



**BARNETT LANE**  
£450 pcm\*  
Flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, No Pets

## STOURBRIDGE



**AUDNAM**  
£375 pcm\*  
First Floor Flat, Ground Floor Entry, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking, Unfurnished

## BRIERLEY HILL



**FOXDALE DRIVE**  
£475 pcm\*  
Cluster Style Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Unfurnished, Front & Side Gardens, Off Road Parking, Available Mid Jan

## BRIERLEY HILL



**DADFORD VIEW**  
£410 pcm\*  
Cluster Style Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating

## DUDLEY



**BOURNE STREET**  
£375 pcm\*  
Ground Floor Maisonette, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished

## SEDGLEY



**LONG MEADOW DRIVE**  
£725 pcm\*  
Link Detached, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking, Garage

## COSELEY



**SALCOMBE GROVE**  
£545 pcm\*  
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens

## PENSNETT



**KIRKHAM GARDENS**  
£515 pcm\*  
Mid Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Rear Garden, Off Road Parking, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished

## HALESOWEN



**CLIFTON ROAD**  
£515 pcm\*  
Semi-Detached House, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Garden, Garage, Unfurnished

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## Property



# Link-detached priced at around £199,950

A TRULY immaculate and well-presented link-detached home in Oak Road, Oldbury which includes a refitted kitchen and an additional sitting room, is for sale through Derek Spires at £199,950.

With gas central heating and double glazing it has three bedrooms, a porch, entrance hall, a superbly presented bathroom with a spa bath, impressive hallway, through lounge/dining room, refitted kitchen, additional sitting

room, conservatory, garage/store, an impressive rear garden, off-street parking for two cars, with easy access to Birmingham city centre and close to amenities.

In more detail the through lounge/dining room has a dining area with corniced ceiling and ceiling rose and a lounge area with a coal effect electric fire set in a marble effect fireplace surround with mantel over, side fluted columns and marble effect

raised hearth. The kitchen includes a Technik four burner electric hob with extractor hood over and integrated double oven, while the sitting room has a patio door to the conservatory. Upstairs all three bedrooms have fitted furniture.

For further information contact Derek Spires on 0121 420 4646 or visit [www.derekspiresandco.com](http://www.derekspiresandco.com)

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# Motoring

Compiled by Motoring  
Editor Sharon Walters

## Kia goes from strength to strength



**Sharon Walters**  
Motoring editor

s.walters@  
expressandstar.co.uk

**SINCE its launch in 2010 the Kia Sportage has proved itself as a car to be reckoned with in the crossover sector, selling over 20,800 models in 2013 and 47,064 since its launch in the UK.**

The 2014 Sportage is available to pre-order now and available in showrooms from February.

Kia's designers have added a package of styling and equipment upgrades to its crossover to keep it at the forefront of this booming sector. The Sportage is Kia's best-selling model in the UK, claiming around a quarter of the company's sales.

Ian Mathews head of product planning, Kia Motors UK Ltd, commenting on the 2014 Sportage model said: "With the adage 'if it ain't broke...' at the back of our minds we looked carefully at what changes to make to the line-up for the 2014 Sportage to ensure that what customers love about their cars is kept and for enhancements to the line-up to add appeal and diversity.

"We've listened to our dealers and customers and by adding more engine options at the entry and top-of-the-range as well as incorporating new technologies such as



Trailer Stability Assist across all models we are taking standard specification levels to those expected on premium brands."

The 2014 line up is based on the outgoing models trim designation with added specifications and design elements including enhanced versions of Kia's 'tiger-nosed' grille across the range with upgrades from painted to chrome sur-



rounds as well as new styling to the central radiator mesh design. Inside, a new soft 'nano' paint finish has been added to the dashboard and centre console and there is now centre console illumination and soft-touch upper door trims. A heated steering wheel and a six-way power adjustable driver's seat have been added to top spec models.

A 4.2-inch TFT LCD supervision cluster is mounted

between the recessed dials of the newly designed dual-bezel instrument display has been added to selected grades. An Infinity premium audio system, available on Sportage for the first time is fitted to higher grades.

All versions now have Trailer Stability Assist to help make towing safer. A Tyre Pressure Monitoring System is now standard to alert the driver to any significant under-inflation.

Two new variants at the top and bottom have been added to the 16 car line up to further broaden the appeal to customers - an all-wheel drive 2.0 CRDi entry level and the 1.7 CRDi turbodiesel is an option on the top spec two-wheel drive model.

The 1.6-litre direct-injection petrol unit and 1.7-litre turbodiesel made their debuts in the Sportage and are the mainstays of the range in the UK. They come as standard with a six-speed manual gearbox, while with the 2.0-litre engines buyers are offered the choice of six-speed manual or six-speed automatic. The Dymax intelligent all-wheel-drive system is standard on every 2.0-litre model.

Kia engineers conducted final testing on UK roads to ensure that the all-independent suspension delivers agile and safe handling and an absorbent and comfortable ride, despite the unique, challenging demands that British roads present.

In keeping with every Kia, the Sportage comes with the company's industry leading seven-year or 100,000-mile warranty, subject to certain wear and tear conditions. It is fully transferable should the car be sold before the time or mileage limits have been reached.

The Sportage is available with Kia's Care-3 and Care-3 Plus servicing package, offering retail customers fixed-cost, inflation-proof servicing for the first three or five years.

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Fuel consumption figures for CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual in mpg (l/100km): Urban 31.7 (8.9), Extra Urban 45.6 (6.2), Combined 39.2 (7.2). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 168g/km; for Civic 1.4 i-VTEC S Manual in mpg (l/100km): Urban 42.2 (6.7), Extra Urban 60.1 (4.7), Combined 52.3 (5.4). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 129g/km; for Jazz 1.2 i-VTEC S in mpg (l/100km): Urban 42.8 (6.6), Extra Urban 61.4 (4.6), Combined 53.3 (5.3). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 123g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

**Models shown:** CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual in optional Passion Red Pearl at £22,495 On The Road; Civic 1.4 i-VTEC S Manual in Milano Red Non-Metallic at £16,995 On The Road; Jazz 1.2 i-VTEC S Manual in Milano Red Non-Metallic at £10,995 On The Road (OTR). **Terms and Conditions:** New retail CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual registered from 2 January 2014 to 31 March 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. **Honda Aspirations (PCP):** £269 per month example shown based on Civic 1.4 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual in optional Passion Red Pearl at £22,495 total cash price including 5 year care package at £500 (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £4,556.64 (19%) deposit, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £8,854.53, annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge: 5p per mile. New retail Civic 1.4 i-VTEC S registered from 2 January 2014 to 31 March 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. **Honda Aspirations (PCP):** £209 per month example shown based on Civic 1.4 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual in Milano Red Non-Metallic at £17,495 total cash price including 5 Year Care Plan at £500 (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £3,812.69 (22%) deposit, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £6,158.38, annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge: 5p per mile. New retail Jazz 1.2 i-VTEC S registered from 2 January 2014 to 31 March 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. The advertised saving of £1,200 (including VAT) discount to the OTR price for the Jazz 1.2 i-VTEC S applied to the retail invoice. **Honda Aspirations (PCP):** £140 per month example shown based on Jazz 1.2 i-VTEC S in Milano Red Non-Metallic at £10,995. Total cash price including 5 Year Care Package (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £1,795.20 (16%) deposit, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £4,159.72, annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge: 5p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc, 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 9JQ. The 5 Year Care Package includes: **Servicing:** All scheduled servicing, as detailed in the vehicles service book, will be covered for 5 years or 62,500 miles, whichever comes first. **Warranty:** In addition to the standard 3 year warranty the customer will receive a complimentary 2 year extended guarantee taking the warranty to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. **Roadside Assist:** In addition to the standard 3 years roadside assistance package the customer will receive complimentary HondaCare Assistance for a further 2 years, taking it to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. **The 5 Year Care Package:** The 5 Year Care Package is optional. It is being offered for £500 including VAT (usual value £1,545 including VAT) and is available to finance or non-finance customers. Please note, should you sell the vehicle during the period of cover, the package remains with the vehicle.



## Motoring

# Sports model to be unveiled at US show

LEXUS revealed the new RC F at the North American International Auto Show this week, a sports thoroughbred model based on the RC coupe which made its debut in Tokyo in November.

The RC F is equipped with a new 5.0-litre V8 engine with a maximum output set to be well above 450bhp. Its status as the most powerful V8 road-going car Lexus has yet built is reflected in styling optimised for stability at high speeds, including wider wheels and tyres, an active rear wing, air scoops, cooling ducts and carbon-fibre components.

Each element delivers what Lexus calls 'functional beauty' to the overall design.

### Contribute

"The form of each component is carefully designed to contribute to performance," said Yukihiko Yaguchi, RC F chief engineer.

"Unique air outlets in the bonnet and rear section of the front wings contribute to optimum engine cooling and handling stability."

"They create a powerful look that immediately conveys the expectation of a dynamic driving experience."

The signature Lexus spindle grille dominates the front of the RC F, with a single F mesh section that extends all the way from the bonnet line to the lower lip.

The bonnet is set higher than on the RC, helping create a powerful, flared profile true to the ethos of Lexus's F models.

Ducts beneath the front bumper and wings, and strategically placed aerody-



namic stabilising fins create a stance that further broadcasts the model's Lexus F pedigree.

Outlets to the rear of the front wings form an L shape where they merge with the side sill extensions. The car's powerful character is also expressed in stacked, trapezoidal quad-outlet tailpipes.

The RC F displays design cues taken from the LFA supercar. An active rear wing automatically deploys at 80km/h (50mph) and retracts when speed falls below 40km/h (25mph), preserving the coupe's svelte lines at standstill.

Three variations of a 10-spoke, 19in forged aluminium wheel design will be available, according to grade, including a set hand-polished by craftsmen.

Inside, the instrument panel is dominated by a central dial, which automatically adapts in line with the coupe's four different driving modes. In each case different information colour and text size are displayed.

To help ensure comfort, Lexus produced a new steering wheel design, with an elliptical cross-section, a thick grip and optimum location of shift paddles.

The high-back seats are also new: finished with an embossed F on the headrests, their styling is inspired in part by modern high-tech athletic sportswear.

Five leather trims will be available, all with contrast stitching.

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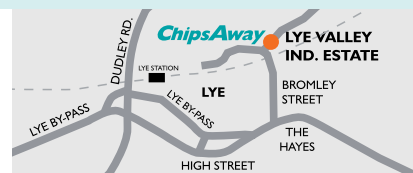
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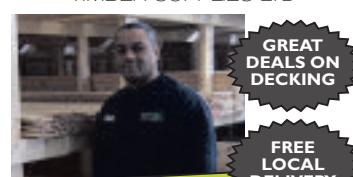
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TWO SETTEES, 3 seater and 2 seater, brown leather, absolute bargain £50. 01384 75175.

### household appliances

BEKO otd21300B Fan assisted integrated double oven as new, never used, £325ono. 07980 303292

COAL EFFECT electric fire, tile surround, excellent condition, £150 ono. 01902 593121.

### in your garden

Top Soil, Building Sand, Paving/Concrete Sand, Decorative Gravels, Delivered Bagged or Loose  
01902 893226

**ROWBERRY'S The Growing Nursery**  
Seed Potatoes now in stock  
[www.rowberrysnursery.co.uk](http://www.rowberrysnursery.co.uk)  
A448 DY10 4QN 01562 777017

### items for sale

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

CIRCULATION BOOSTER with 10 body pads. All connections. £60 ono. 07930 301117. Bilston.

CORRUGATED Roofing Sheets Also tile effect/box profile/curved and z purfins. Call Hornsey Steels 01547 530419

HOUSE CLEARANCE due to downsizing, wide variety of items. Please call 01902 703528 or 07908 906406 for more information.

SOLID MAHOAGANY 2092cm x 610cm x 5cm, used as a desk top. For details 01902 984240.

### items wanted

A ABSOLUTELY BEST price given for single items or houses cleared. Antiques, old, reproduction. Call: 01384 482155 or 07802 475693.

**ALL BOXED / LOOSE RAILWAY COLLECTIONS WANTED**  
ANY GAUGE OR AGE  
Also live steam, also Diecast, Dinky, Corgi, Spot On.  
Guaranteed top cash prices paid!!  
0121 602 2569/07891 713547.  
[thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com](mailto:thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com)

**ALL GOLD 9ct £300 per ounce CASH PAID TODAY A GENUINE LADY BUYER**  
All Reswick • Doulton • Worcester Moorcroft • Liadro • Old coins • Watches • Costume Jewellery • Old toys • Clocks • Paintings • All silver • Chinese items • Old ivory • Military Items  
Pre 47 silver coins All war medals etc  
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

COINS AND WAR MEDALS wanted by private collector.  
Please contact 01902 676540.

ITEMS FOR CASH TV/Laptops working/broken, toys, electric goods, bikes, Loft/garages cleared 0783 295678 or 0800 8569719.

MODEL MAKERS (lathe) wanted, in good condition. Telephone 01902 701929.

WANTED. DVDs, CDs and Blu-rays, good price paid, can collect. Please call 07889 467889.

### t.v. / home entertainment

### service

**AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS**  
Free Estimates on any TV Plasma, LCD, 3D, LED, Projection Receivers. All areas covered 8 till late. 7 days. Digital aerials, Sky installation. Wall mounts & TV setups.  
07850 330251

### specialists at your service

### aerials

**AA DIGITAL AERIALS**  
1 aerial into 2 rooms  
**£85**  
1 aerial into 4 rooms  
**£125**  
All work guaranteed  
SAME DAY SERVICE  
01902 858191  
01384 429166  
01543 439095  
01922 716029  
07833 738857

### alarms/security

### PREMIER ALARMS

Supplied and Fitted £195  
Servicing and Repairs  
12 Months Warranty  
All areas covered  
All quotes beaten!  
Call: 0121 601 9791

### appliance repairs

**Home Appliance Repair & Parts**  
Washing machine faulty?  
Cooker faulty?  
All Brands - All Appliances Repaired  
FREE 07764 478534  
CALL OUT or 01384 373096

### building services

ALL TYPES OF BUILDING & roofing work by Davies & Son. No job too small. See us on "Rated People". Call 01902 579592 / 07837 994465

BUILDER. Brickwork, patios, concreting, fencing, blockpaving. Free quotes. 07863 324438.

### carpet & upholstery cleaning

**A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**  
Carpets dry in 30 minutes.  
Call Paul: 0800 112 3959  
[www.aaclasscarpetcleaning.co.uk](http://www.aaclasscarpetcleaning.co.uk)

### cooker fitters

ALL COOKERS FITTED by Bows Universal Domestic Installers. Call 0800 756 2632 or 07973 534527.

### double glazing

UPVC BACK DOORS from £299, front doors from £349 fitted. Windows & Fascia's, 01922 442720.

### driveways & patios

**Select Driveways & Patios Ltd**  
Specialists in Paving & Tarmac Block paving / regular paving Indian sandstone tarmac red and black. We are an insured & registered company  
01902 585194  
[www.select-services.biz](http://www.select-services.biz)

### electrical services

STEVE JONES ELECTRICAL  
Re-wires/sockets/fuse boards etc. All domestic and commercial work. 07786 858977/01902 846167.

### gardening services

For all your Patio's, Turfing, Decking, treework and Root grinding...

### Prestwood FENCING & LANDSCAPING

Call us on: 01384 273586 or 07947 879403 or visit [www.prestwoodfencing.co.uk](http://www.prestwoodfencing.co.uk) for more details

**JEZ'S GARDEN SERVICES**  
Lawns cut, Borders, Garden clearances  
Trees lopped and shaped  
Fencing, Slabbing...  
Please call: 01384 403353 or 07929 600636

### fencing

**Chestnut Fencing**  
Any Size Deluxe Panels  
Promotional Prices  
[www.chestnutshedsandfencing.co.uk](http://www.chestnutshedsandfencing.co.uk)  
01384 913422

### gas fitting

**GAS SERVICES**  
Boilers  
Cookers  
Fires  
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Landlord Certificates  
Gas Leaks Traced  
Fitted, Serviced and Repaired  
Same Day Service  
Free Quotes  
DISCOUNTS FOR OAPs  
Call: 01902 366855/  
07761 973975

### house clearances

Do you need to clear your home?  
FREE FURNITURE COLLECTIONS or for a full paid clearance service from £195 we'll take it all!  
01384 671149  
[www.marystevenshospice.co.uk](http://www.marystevenshospice.co.uk)

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Tel: 07852 172641.

BOYS BRIGADE TRADING  
Offer free furniture collections or full house clearances at £25 per hour. Free estimates. Further details telephone 07845 003656 or 07889 786687.

### painters / decorators

**LOVE 2 WALLPAPER**  
Reliable & Friendly, Professional Female Painter and Decorator  
Quality work with competitive prices.  
For the Perfect Finish with minimum hassle.  
Plastering & Coving Work Undertaken  
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MTK PAINTING/DECORATING City & Guilds Cheltenham. Call Mark 01384 340930/07825 558940

### plans prepared

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### plastering

**P.D.P. PLASTERING & TILING**  
All aspects of plastering & Tiling. City & Guilds NVQ.  
Call Pete: 07505662778  
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**TRIDENT PLUMBING**  
All general plumbing work undertaken, No job too small! Reliable and experienced plumber, free quotes  
Call Dave  
01384 823863 - 07854 338356

### plumbing & heating

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Plumbing, Heating, Gaswork. Gas Safe Registered.  
Call Steve: 07796 270745 or Dan: 07807 818730

MIDLAND ENERGY SOLUTIONS. All plumbing, heating, gas and electrical work. Call Luke on 01902 895108 or 07584 062483.

### property maintenance

**DG PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS**  
Decorating, Gardening, Woodwork, Locks, Windows and Doors  
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Local & Distance  
Domestic & Commercial  
Competitive Prices  
**Call 07870 341089**

**A1 KINGSWINFORD  
REMOVALS & HOUSE  
CLEARANCES**

Single items,  
Full houses, Offices etc

Recession rates,  
**FREE QUOTES**

We take the stress away  
**40 years experience**  
**07966 281957**

**CHEAPER  
REMOVALS**

NATIONWIDE, INSURED,  
FREE QUOTES

Single Items to Full Removals.  
01902 894916 / 07807 773035

**A & M CHEAP  
REMOVALS**  
Local  
Careful Firm  
Full or Part loads  
**Call Don:**  
**0800 587 0377**  
**or 07749 941319**

**MAN WITH A VAN** Single items,  
flathouse removals/clearances,  
local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121  
422 2999 or 07815 043724

**CALL DEAN!** Business/Domestic,  
Deliveries/Relocation/full house  
item 07429 453029 / 01902 830870  
01384 940260 / 01922 263460

**CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN.**  
Removals, clearances, items large  
or small. Call: 01902 741545,  
07917 679360 or 01384 468955.

**KINGSWINFORD REMOVALS**  
No insurance rates-beat any quality,  
fully experienced. 07966 281957.

**SAVE ON A SKIP LOAD** Clearances,  
removals, men & van hire,  
OAP discounts, no permits.  
01384 823492 / 0772315165.

**roofing**

**ROOFX ROOFING**  
Flat Roofing Specialists  
Tiling work, fascias, soffits, guttering,  
chimney repointing. Free quotes.  
**01902 550892, 07952 442017**

**MG  
ROOFING**

Flat roofs, tiling,  
roof repairs, fascias  
and gutters.

**01902 238989 or  
07580 465449**

**PREMIER ROOFING** New Roofs,  
Repairs, Fascias & Gutters. Call:  
0121 532 7601 or 07875 387445.

**skip hire**

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SKIPS**

All sizes  
All areas covered  
Immediate delivery  
Competitive prices  
Fast and Reliable service  
**Call: 01384 240956**  
**07920 885774**

**BIG JOHN MOVES RUBBISH!**  
No Skips, we load, load & dispose  
service, 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2  
8JR, Est 30 years, 01384 232359.

**4  
Pets &  
Animals**

**equestrian  
corner**

ALL READERS are advised to  
check if Horses have the required  
Passport information.

**pets corner**

**Companions Pets**  
• Pet supplies • Dog grooming  
• Dog training

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**GREYHOUNDS MAKE  
WONDERFUL PETS**  
All neutered, inoculated and  
chipped.

Call Greyhound Trust  
01922 412212 or  
www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Please be aware that when  
purchasing a puppy there are  
some simple guidelines you can  
follow to ensure that you are not  
purchasing from a Puppy  
Farmer.

1. Try to ensure you visit the  
puppy whilst it is still with it's  
Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a  
puppy from any other location  
than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any  
KC documentation, if pedigree.  
Whilst Midland & News  
Association publications take  
great care to avoid publication of  
advertisements from Puppy  
Farmers we cannot accept any  
liability should readers  
purchase from this kind of  
establishment.

**BLUE STAFFORDSHIRE** Bull  
Terrier puppies, both parents can  
be seen, no paper, £200 each.  
01902 620914.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD** bitch, black,  
4 years old, £200. 01746 761279,  
07850 569996.

**KIND HOMES WANTED**  
**AZLAN** Golden curly coated  
lab cross, lovely natured boy  
**HECTOR** Approx 5yr old lab  
cross, friendly affectionate with  
lab temperament

**RUBY** Old cross breed girl,  
lovely old dog but not had much  
in her life

**POPPY** 11 month old small  
black lurcher/whippet,  
friendly/affectionate

**JASPER** 1yr old black Jack  
Russell cross.

**BRUNO** 3yr German Shepherd  
x big friendly boy

**BRANDY** 2yr old Alsatian x Lab  
lovely big affectionate girl  
01588 676106  
www.dogsamaritans.org.uk

**SOLID BLUE STAFFY PUPPIES**  
Champion bloodlines, KC applied,  
£500. 07412 591807.

**SPECIAL HOMES WANTED**  
**LEXI** Staffie x Springer Spaniel,  
1yr old, walks nice on lead,  
friendly/affectionate

**SOPHIE** Small 5yr old brown  
and white Staffie, very loving,  
loves car.

Both these dogs would make  
lovely pets.  
01384 252158.

**5  
Business &  
Farming**

**accountants**

**ACCOUNTS, BOOK KEEPING,  
PAYROLL, VAT** New start-ups  
welcome. Phone Clover on:  
01384 459714 or 07715 510749.

**business  
opportunities**

**READERS** are recommended to  
take appropriate professional  
advice before entering any  
obligations.

**commercial  
premises sale / let**

**THREE SMALL OFFICES** to rent  
and 1 factory floor. Would rent  
separately. Avenue Road, Cosely.  
Telephone 07850 589620.

**6  
Property**

**properties  
wanted**

**BUY HOUSES!**  
Local Investor pays 10k more.  
Call Alex 07729 297901

**We Buy Any House**

**We Pay 100% of Purchase Price**

**EVERY  
TIME**

**BC  
H  
BLACK COUNTRY  
HOMES**

We are a family run local business.

A fair offer from people you can trust.

No fees - Free solicitors

Call Stan on **01902 628047**  
or **0800 032 1718**

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We are a local independent Company  
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Any property • Any condition  
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**0121 308  
7786  
24/7**

**ASTON WOOD PROPERTIES**

**WE BEAT ANY PRICE!**

We pay 100% of purchase price

Guaranteed offer\* • Any condition  
Free solicitors • No fees\*

**FOR THE BEST PRICE ON YOUR HOME**

Call **0800 783 2822** 24 hrs

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Homes**

**national  
homeowners  
helpline.co.uk**

**LOOK**  
• WE BUY ANY HOUSE  
• ANY AREA • ANY CONDITION

A guaranteed offer\*  
no fees\* free solicitors  
\*Subject to terms

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085 6626**

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Cash Deal**

It's as simple as that, you  
will get the best deal on your  
home from  
**FIRST GENERAL HOMES**

Call 24/7  
**0560 346 7282**

**Get 95-100% For Your House - FAST!**

Free valuation. Free consultation  
Any property. Any condition. Anywhere

100% Confidential. No obligation  
Repossession stopped

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**01902 489 500**  
YellowSpringbok.co.uk

**accommodation  
to let**

**NOTICE TO READERS** It is an  
offence under the Accommodation  
Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency  
to charge a fee simply for the registra-  
tion of your requirements and/or  
supplying particulars of premises to let.

**BEAUTIFUL** Studio flat, refurbished  
and furnished, Newbridge.  
£340pcm. 07886 002704.

**BED SIT** WITH own cooker and  
fridge facilities, quiet location, Penn  
area, £65pw. Phone after 7pm  
01543 504770.

**BEDSITS, STUDIOS** to let, newly  
refurbished, Willenhall area.  
Call for details 07885 158918.

**MODERN 2 BED** apartment, Brierley  
Hill, available immediately, rets  
req. £495 pcm. 07970 514794.

**NEW** two and three bed Houses,  
Bilston, £550pcm and £595pcm.  
Telephone 07813 641689.

**OLDBURY, SMALL** 1 bed flat.  
£95.50pw. Des Considered.  
Call / text 07779 615293.

**ONE BEDROOM FLAT**, own back  
garden, on Russells Hall Estate,  
£355 welcome. 07970 514794.

**PENNETT** Dudley / Blackheath,  
1/3 bed flathouse, Dep/rent neg.  
0121 550 0064 or 07970 980955.

**UN FURNISHED** 3 bed semi, good  
location, through lounge, kitchen,  
bathroom with shower, separate  
toilet, part DG, CH, off road parking.  
References required. £550pcm.  
07954 420608.

**WEDNESFIELD**, 3 bed semi, DG,  
CH, full modernised, drive,  
£130pw. Deposit and refs required.  
Telephone 07932 504351.

**houses for sale**

**FOR A QUICK SALE**

**FRANCE**  
Stunning 3 bed House,  
attached barn, gardens, new  
start/retirement/B&B, local  
motor cross track, mountain  
bike trails.  
£95,000 ono.  
07906 158067.

**land**

**LOOK**

**PLOT OF LAND**  
With planning permission for  
one detached house.  
Two miles North of  
Wolverhampton.  
01902 784244.

**flats for sale**

**GROUND FLOOR FLAT**, 2 bed, gas  
ch, superb corner position, situated  
best part of Penn, £110,000 o.n.o.  
01902 331155.

**overseas  
property**

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Considerers are advised to seek  
independent legal advice before  
entering into any financial commit-  
ments.

**7  
Jobs**

**office &  
secretarial**

**PART TIME SECRETARY**  
BOOKKEEPER Required for oak  
frame buildings in Enville. Immedi-  
ate start CV to sales@nat-oak.com

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TRANSPORT  
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Driver Training**

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- 1-1 Gold Standard tuition
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Tuition available

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HGV Driver Training

**DSA QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS**  
HGV 2+ (ARTIC & C (RIGID))  
7.5T (C1) SMALL LORRY  
CAR & TRAILER (B+E)  
MINIBUS (D)  
1-2-1 TRAINING  
INITIAL CPC TRAINING & ADR  
CPC Periodic Training for PCV & LGV  
from 7hr blocks - Full 35hrs  
01902 744726 / 07831 646601

**employment  
wanted**

**EX FINANCE MANAGER** 25 years  
experience local Government,  
seeks budget / book keeping /  
related work. 07958 572267.

**RETIRED TIME SERVED  
CARPENTER/JOINER**  
Requires casual/part-time  
work. Own van/tools.  
Has been involved in general  
maintenance for last 12 years.  
CRB cleared.  
01384 375672/07527 360303.

**part time -  
general**

**NEED AN EXTRA INCOME** £200-  
£2,000pm. 0121 314 9552.  
www.bencher.info

**sales &  
marketing**

**TRAINEE SALES** staff required.  
Confident & dynamic telephone  
manner essential. Basic + bonus,  
excellent OTE. Call 01384 379528.

**8  
Motoring**

**cars over £1500**

**DAEWOO MATIZ SE** 1000cc, 58  
reg, black, 1 owner, 38k, 9 months  
MoT, tax, alloys, excellent condi-  
tion. £2,095. 07796 761902.

**FIAT SEDICI DYNAMIC 16V 4 X 4**  
2008, tax and MoT Oct, 1 lady  
owner, 12k miles only, fsh, £3,950.  
01902 324699.

**FORD FOCUS**

1.6 LX automatic, 5-dr hatch, X  
reg, petrol, only 24,493 miles  
from new, FSH, last serviced  
Oct 5, 2013 at 24,386 miles, tax  
March 31, 14, MoT Oct 14, no  
advisories, air con, air bags,  
aqua frost, metallic paint, PAS,  
one previous owner, very clean  
car, comfortable drive.

**£1,795 ono.**  
**Wedsnesbury**  
07586 192911, 0121 556 4548  
No text/witheld/advertisers.

**FORD FOCUS GHIA**

2005, 63,500 miles, metallic  
grey, very good condition, 1  
owner, fsh, 10 months MoT and  
tax. Cruise control, alloys and  
usual GHIA specification.  
**£2,800 ono.**  
**07964 592203.**

**KIA SEDONA**  
2006, 73,000 miles, black, abs,  
electric windows, air bag, elec-  
tric mirrors, air con, alarm, MoT,  
towbar, good condition, alloy  
wheels.  
**£2,500 ono.**  
**07725 209544.**

**MINI COOPER**, 2003, 86,300 miles,  
blue and white, air con, fsh, alarm,  
long MoT, central locking, tax,  
alloys, £3,200 ono. 07773 906774.

**MINI COOPER**, 2007, 1.6 petrol,  
black, 72k, MoT August, red part  
leather trim, CD, C.C.C, alloys,  
£4,995. 01902 373716.

**MINI COOPER** Black, 07 reg, taxed,  
tested, 60k miles, very clean,  
£5,500 ono. 01902 839306 or  
07751 191648.

**MK1 VW CADDY PICKUP**  
Maroon, 1990, 132,000 miles,  
1791 cc petrol, 11 months MoT,  
4 months tax, used daily.  
**£2,000.**  
**01562 741287.**

**NISSAN MICRA** Acenta 1.2, 57,  
FSH, Full MoT, Tax March 14,  
21,500 miles, Good condition.  
£2,500. 01384 827047.

**NISSAN PRIMERA 2.2 DCI  
SX**

5Dr hatchback, diesel, 2005,  
126,000 miles, blue, 6 speed,  
FSH, ABS, sat nav, 6 disc CD, 4  
new tyres, MoT end of June, fab  
condition.  
**£1,600.**  
**07803 033291.**

**PEUGEOT 307 HDI DIESEL**  
**TURBO** 2.0 04, 5dr, silver, 6  
months MoT, taxed, 73,000 miles,  
£1,850. 07407 782048.

**RENAULT CLIO** Diesel Dynamique,  
low mileage 38k, Dec 08, silver,  
very good, MoT, tax, very economi-  
cal, £4,150 o.n.o. 01902 791976

**RENAULT LAGUNA**, 2005, 57,000  
miles, grey, fsh, alarm, air condi-  
tioning, long MoT, good condition.  
£1,850 ono. 07719 746103.

**ROVER 75** diesel, 2005, Saloon,  
75k, new battery, ECU, 4 new  
tyres, brake discs, 11 months MoT,  
£1,999 ono. 01922 638604.

**SEAT IBIZA REFERENCE  
SPORT 1.4TDI**  
2008, 5-dr, metallic grey,  
immaculate, one lady owner,  
FSH, MoT 11 months.  
**£3,250 ono.**  
**01902 380424.**

**TOYOTA AVENTIS 2.0** Diesel, 04  
reg, MoT, FSH 3 keys, immaculate  
in and out. Silver. £2,850 ono.  
07710 714421 or 01902 862871.

**VAUXHALL CORSA** 55 reg, 1 cc  
in silver, 3 door design, 49,000  
miles, 10 months MoT, full Vauxhall  
SH, £2,995 ono. 01384 263759.

**VAUXHALL CORSA SRI**, 2004,  
1.4L, 57,676 miles, black, b.w, a/c,  
pas, r/r, long MoT and tax, very  
good condition, £1,850 ono.  
07795 028257.

**star★extra TRAVEL**

**Bath and  
Oxford**

Buy one  
get one  
free

Together, these two great cities  
attract millions of visitors each  
year. With breathtaking  
architecture and Roman remains,  
plus exciting shopping  
opportunities, these two  
beautiful cities have something  
to offer everyone.

The first stop will be Oxford which, for  
over 800 years has been a home to  
royalty and scholars, whilst to this day it  
remains a prestigious city. See the  
colleges and universities that offer  
some of the country's greatest  
architecture, which testify to the title  
'City of Dreaming Spires'.

In Bath, take time to explore the famous  
Roman Baths, discovered by the  
Romans over 2000 years ago. There are  
also many museums to visit and plenty  
of shops to browse or venues where  
you can relax with a drink and  
something to eat.

**FROM £149 for two people**  
**Two days departing March 23**

**PRICE INCLUDES:**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Visit to Oxford
- Visit to Bath
- Services of a tour driver
- Single rooms subject to availability
- supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

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**(Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), or go to expressandstar.com/starextratravel**  
Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions  
Pick-up points offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton



# ClassifiedAds

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## cars under £1500

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**STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED) ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**  
HIGH STREET, KINVER  
DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in the length of High Street, Kinver between its junction with Vicarage Drive and a point approximately outside property number 49 unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works; or unless the vehicle requires access to premises on the length of road or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

The preferred alternative route for traffic will be available via High Street, Enville Road, Hyde Lane, A458 Bridgnorth Road, A449 Kidderminster Road, Dunsley Road, Mill Lane, High Street and vice versa.

THE ORDER WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON 11 FEBRUARY 2014 AT APPROXIMATELY 9AM, AND THE SAID WORKS WILL COMMENCE ON OR AS NEAR AS PRACTICABLE TO THAT DATE. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE WORKS WILL BE COMPLETED BY 5PM ON 12 FEBRUARY 2014.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the installation works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road, have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director of Democracy, Law and Transformation

Ref: S24991; Enquiries: Customer Contact Centre; Tel: 0300 111 8000

http://roadworks.org.uk

Date: 24 January 2014

**10 Personals**

## personal

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I'm chubby and cuddly with a GSOH.

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Kingswinford, Dudley, Brierley Hill, Stourbridge, Halesowen areas.

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# ClassifiedAds



## Oldswins get taste of defeat in first game

COUNTY champions Oldswinford suffered defeat in their first game of the Worcestershire Cricket Board Indoor Cricket League season and Swindon notched up the highest score to date to beat Belbroughton.

Both losing teams were left with wickets to spare and batsmen waiting to come back.

**Enville A (93 all out) beat Oldswinford (90-2) by 3**

Enville's innings sometimes had a kamikaze feel about them, suffering three run-outs and an invitation to more. Jono Howells kept his head top-scoring with 23 aided by some generous bowling from Oldswinford.

Setting only an average score of 93 Lee Nightingale (25no) started off smartly providing a platform for Oldswinford that was largely unused.

On Nightingale's retirement Enville bowlers took the initiative and without being penetrative restricted the batsmen so that Oldswinford quickly fell behind the required rate.

**Swindon (127-3) beat Belbroughton (113-2) by 14**

After a slow start Swindon batsmen got on top and produced a challenging total.

N Perry hit a quick-fire 25 before retiring.

Wale (25no) and Brown (21no) took advantage of some wayward bowling.

Belbroughton lost a wicket in the second over but Boardman (28no) and Day (21) collected themselves and with placement and sensible running got the innings back on track.

**Hayes rally as Gornal let lead slip**

**Heath Hayes 3 Gornal Athletic 2**

HEATH HAYES came back from two goals down to clinch the points in a crucial Midlands Alliance relegation battle. Richard Smith fired Gornal into a fifth-minute lead.

Hayes rallied but were then caught out by a quick break and Ravi Sangha who doubled his side's lead.

Hayes got the ideal start to the second half when Tom Baggott headed powerfully from a corner.

This inspired the home side and Baggott equalised. The winner came in the 82nd minute through Dave Waple.

# Results from chess club's league outings

## Chess

STOURBRIDGE Chess Club's Wolverhampton Division 4 team travelled to Halesowen C.

After 90 minutes of play it looked good for Stourbridge.

Jeremy Humphreys had already agreed a draw with his opponent.

John Loynes had a clear positional advantage.

Steve Alcock was in a strong position against Maureen Clark, and won the exchange.

Colin Woodall was at least level with Mark Vile.

Then it seemed to start to go wrong. John Loynes had thought too hard and too long about how to

exploit his advantage and played an unsound sacrifice, losing a bishop for a pawn, though he still had some pressure.

Woodall's position, too, began to deteriorate to leave him with a lost endgame.

But Loynes' opponent Hathaway played badly, and suddenly Loynes had escaped with a draw. Then Woodall's opponent missed a back-row mate threat and lost.

Alcock completed his win over Clark, to end 3-1.

On Wednesday evening our WDCL 3 team hosted Rushall.

Despite the grading differences,

the Rushall team were putting up a good fight. But then the first cracks appeared. Steve Jukes had developed a clear advantage over his opponent, and was well on his way to a win.

John Foxall was also pressing, and it was only a matter of time before he broke through. Paul Sharratt was also exerting a lot of pressure on the Queen's side.

On board one Eric Horwill agreed a draw, and Jukes concluded his win. Foxall was also

winning, and was next to finish, so 2.5 - 0.5 and well on track.

Sharratt and Julie Wilson both then won their games to finish 4.5 - 0.5 and continue the pursuit of Division 2 status.

Nic Fallowfields' opponent resigned his adjourned position in the Birmingham Division 1 match against Warley Quinborne.

This gave the club a 3-2 lead in the match. Greg Dyett was still adjourned and scheduled to continue on Thursday.

Dyett's position was difficult and complex, and whilst not yet lost it would be a challenge to save

it and win us the match. On Thursday Dyett returned to Warley Quinborne knowing he only needed a draw to win the match.

The Warley player, knowing he had pressure to win and time pressure played in such a way his position deteriorated fairly rapidly and it was Greg who not only equalised the material but gained a passed pawn advantage.

Unlike his opponent, Greg converted until he had a forced mate in 1.

We won the match 4-2 and are again second in division 1 with 10 points.

# Saxons leave it late to overcome Grasshoppers

**Preston Grasshoppers 13 Stourbridge Saxons 31**  
**IT wasn't until the 74th minute that misfiring Saxons drew two scores ahead of their determined hosts, simultaneously securing the try bonus point.**

It was thanks to a short-range driving maul that produced a try for captain Mark George. They retain third place in National 2 North, with the top four now clear their promotion hopes depend largely on crunch encounters with Sedgley Park, Macclesfield and Darlington Mowden Park.

The Saxons came full tilt out of the starting blocks, a Ben Barkley break in his own half shredding the home defence and putting scrum half Pete White in to score.

The hosts hit back with a try for winger Sam Kendall and they edged into the lead shortly after when the Saxons transgressed in the tackle area gifting outside half Alex Roebuck a penalty kick.

The Saxons struggled to retain possession but the hosts were unable to breach what remains the meaneast defence in the league.

Preston conceded an attacking lineout in their 22 and drew a warning for pulling down a driving maul that was threatening their line, the Saxons reloaded and it was No.8 Drew Harper - making his first appearance of the season - who bagged the try.

Preston responded before the break with another try in the corner for Kendall, leaving the game finely balanced 13-12 at halftime. He

## Rugby

could have had a third when he fumbled his interception off an optimistic White pass, but the Saxons rode their luck, worked their way downfield and secured an attacking five metre scrum from which Harper picked up and blasted through.

Preston wouldn't give up though. They broke out after a big hit by outside-half Sam Robinson enabled prop Mike Hill to force a penalty at the tackle as the hosts were driven backwards.

They worked their way back upfield where a neat White kick forced a Preston lineout deep in their own 22.

The throw was picked off by second row Ben Hughes, and with the entire backline throwing their weight into the maul it was forced over with captain Mark George the scorer.

Disaster struck Preston's final counterattack. Sub James Rodley turning over possession near halfway to enable centre Stef Shillingford and fullback Tom Jarvis to put sub Bobbie Lawrenson in for the final score



Saxons' pack get stuck in during the game which saw them grab the victory and the bonus point



The Saxons celebrate Drew Harpers' short range try in their away match against Grasshoppers

## Pearce is eyeing up the British Masters

STOURBRIDGE'S International Masters Welterweight Champion, Steven Pearce, is ready to add a British Masters strap to his list of titles when he takes on Sheffield's Ryan Hardy.

Pearce tops the EJKO Promotions bill - March Mayhem - at Walsall Town Hall on Saturday, March 1.

The 28 year-old is looking to carry on where he left off last time out at the Town Hall when he stopped Stafford's Rob Hunt in the fifth round to lift the International Masters belt.

"I'm really looking forward to it," he said. "I feel like I'm back in big time boxing. It's another title fight, so that's title fights back to back, which is great."

"I was pleased with my performance against Rob Hunt. People were questioning me after I lost to Sam Eggington last year but you have to put that in context."

Sam recently beat Dave Ryan who has since beaten Paul McCloskey.

Tickets are £30 and £60 ringside, and are available from Walsall Town Hall Box Office on 0845 111 2900.

Pearce versus Hardy tops the bill of a bumper 11-fight card.

## Invite for all runners to have a heart

RUNNERS of all abilities are being invited to get their trainers on and get out to take part in a charity run to help raise funds and save lives.

This year's Action Heart five mile run will be held on Sunday February 23 from 9.30am and will be starting out from Dudley.

It is the 23rd year the charity has organised the event which raises money to fund cardiac rehabilitation treatment.

The run starts and finishes at Russells Hall Hospital Dudley and runners from first timers to seasoned joggers and on to the more experienced athletes are welcome to enter.

If the running sounds too energetic there is also a walking event. All funds raised will be used by the Action Heart cardiac rehabilitation programme in Dudley. For details and an entry form visit [www.action-hearttraining.com](http://www.action-hearttraining.com) or contact 01384 292233.



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# SPORT

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**Taste of defeat**  
Champions beaten in  
first game of season  
**Page 43**

**Masters in sight**  
Boxer Pearce aiming  
for British fight title  
**Page 43**

e-mail: [chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk)

## Heroics just not enough for DK

**Dudley Kingswinford 10**  
**Darlington M-den Park 53**  
ON a damp Saturday afternoon at Heathbrook with top versus bottom, you would have been right to expect another cricket score with high-flying Mowden Park leading the way.

How wrong you would have been and although the result was never in doubt, at times during the game you would not have been able to distinguish who was top and who was bottom.

That's how good the home side's effort and commitment throughout the match was.

Slow out of the blocks, Dudley were caught early on with two tries Ralph Appleby going over, followed shortly by Chris Peace, both converted by fly-half Max Connon.

However, with their never-say-die spirit the home side exerted some pressure of their own and were eventually rewarded with a penalty which fly half Gareth Bown landed.

Park then enjoyed a purple patch of play resulting in a hat-trick of tries by their outstanding left wing Shaun McCartney.

Shortly after, a further try by centre Peace, again converted by Connon. However, the young side conjured up a fine try of their own as Matt Humphreys crashed over.

The second half saw that man McCartney bag his fourth try of the afternoon.

Further tries later on from scrum half Andrew Smith pushed the score line further away from DK but did not reflect the heroics of this committed young team.

## Waterhouse is game hero

**Tipton Town 2 Quorn 2**

A LAST-gasp equaliser by Captain Marvel Chris Waterhouse deep into injury time completed a dramatic comeback for Town.

Waterhouse poked home after a goalmouth scramble in the 96th minute to ensure a share of the points after Quorn had led 2-0 with 85 minutes gone.

Quorn came out much more positively in the second half, and took the lead when Tom Cooper rifled home from close range.

And the lead was doubled on 74 minutes by Liam Reed. Mike Perk's first league goal of the season signalled the start of the fight back.

In stoppage time Waterhouse bundled home.

# Banks pays tribute to fellow legend Bert

## Football

WORLD Cup winner Gordon Banks paid a heartfelt tribute to Bert Williams, describing him as the most agile goalkeeper ever.

The man recognised as Wolves' greatest keeper passed away peacefully at Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital on Sunday morning, surrounded by his family. He was 93.

Williams was England's oldest living international who played at the World Cup in 1950, winning 24 caps in a glittering career which saw him help Wolves become one of the top teams in the world, claiming the FA Cup in 1949 and the League title in 1954. In his 420 appearances for Wolves

from 1945-57 – a club record for a goalkeeper which stood for 42 years until it was overtaken by Mike Stowell in 1999 – he inspired people such as Banks, who is recognised as one of the country's greatest goalkeepers and was part of England's 1966 World Cup-winning team.

"Bert has to be in the top group of goalkeepers to have played the game," the 76-year-old said.

"He should be remembered as the most agile goalkeeper ever.

"He really could leap across that goal like

no-one else – I've never seen anyone else come up to his standards.

"I've seen great goalkeepers like the Russian Lev Yashin, but Bert was smaller and had this extra leap to get across the goal and cover the top corner of the net – he was absolutely brilliant.

"You have to remember Wolves were a really great side at the time, not just in this country but throughout Europe. He played for England at a World Cup, so his standing was very high in the game.

"I know Ron Flowers very well and he said Bert was a great player, which is a top recommendation from an outstanding player

himself. He had a great name in the game but he deserved it – he was brave and he was a great goalkeeper.

The pair became firm friends in recent years and Banks used to travel from his home in Crewe to Bert's house in Shifnal.

"He was a gentleman – I admired him so much," said Banks, who played for Stoke and Leicester.

"He was a lovely man – it was just a great privilege to have known him and actually meet him.

"He was such a nice man. I admired him so much as a young boy and as a young man starting out in football."

## Anelka is charged by the FA

WEST Bromwich Albion striker Nicolas Anelka has been charged by the FA after making a gesture considered to be anti-Semitic during a goal celebration.

He performed the 'quenelle' gesture during a goal celebration in West Bromwich Albion's match against West Ham on December 28, and now faces a minimum five-match ban.

The gesture isn't well known here but it caused a storm across the Channel as it is deemed anti-Semitic by critics in France.

The 34-year-old striker, who started in Monday night's 1-1 draw with Everton, claimed his actions were in support of his friend, French comedian Dieudonne M'Bala M'Bala, and insisted the gesture was 'anti-establishment', not intended to be offensive.

But he has been charged by the FA.

A statement from the FA on Tuesday read: "The FA has charged the West Bromwich Albion player Nicolas Anelka following an incident that occurred during the West Ham United versus West Bromwich Albion fixture at the Boleyn Ground on December 28.

"It is alleged that, in the 40th minute of the fixture, Anelka made a gesture which was abusive and/or indecent and/or insulting and/or improper, contrary to FA Rule E3 (1). It is further alleged that this is an aggravated breach, as defined in FA Rule E3 (2), in that it included a reference to ethnic origin and/or race and/or religion or belief.

"Anelka has until 6pm on January 23 to respond to the charge." Albion have insisted the former France international remains available pending a decision.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Kettleby, Telford, Thursday, January 23, 2014.

# GLASSBOYS SUFFER MISERY OF SHUTOUT

Stourbridge 0 Bideford AFC 3

**GARY HACKETT'S men endured a miserable afternoon as they slumped to a 3-0 home loss to fellow play-off hopefuls Bideford.**

The loss was compounded by the sending-off of defender Will Richards who became the third Stourbridge player to be dismissed in the last four games.

Most observers felt beforehand this could be a tight contest and in the first period, at least, that proved true.

A dull half saw the two sides largely cancel each other out with few chances created as the Glassboys made little headway against their well-organised opponents.

Bideford threatened soon after the restart with Sampson on the right hitting an angled shot that forced Worby into a save at his near post.

Then Luke Benbow had the sniff of a chance at the other end, but from the right-hand side of the area, he lifted the ball over the keeper, however the ball bounced wide.

The complexion of the match changed though in the 51st minute as the ball came in from the right and Alistair Worby, under pressure, could only push the ball out to the feet of Nick Milton on the left-hand side of the area and his shot from a tight angle was adjudged to have been handled on the line by Richards in turning the ball round the post.

Richards was duly red-carded despite some home protests and eventually

## Football

Matt Hockley buried a low spot-kick to put the north Devon club ahead.

The Glassboys had to re-organise with Leon Broadhurst dropping into the back-line.

With 22 minutes remaining, there was a nine-minute delay after the referee suffered a hamstring injury and a replacement to run one of the lines had to be sought from the crowd.

Bideford went up-field to double their advantage with Duff riding a tackle before tucking away a left-foot shot.

It got even worse for the home side seven minutes later as a surging run down the right flank by Sampson saw him get the better of Jamie Oliver who felt the ball had gone out of play and he stopped, rather than play to the whistle, allowing Sampson time to pick out Squire with a low pull-backed centre and the strike turned the ball home.

With heads dropping, the hosts were a disorganised mess in the final 10 minutes and could have conceded more goals.

● The Glassboys have rearranged their home match with Truro City for Tuesday, January 28, kick-off 7.30 pm.

## Saxons grab bonus point in late away victory



Second row Ben Hughes secures a lineout thrown in the leadup to the Saxons – full report inside

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